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HANDBOOK
TO THE
COUNTY OF KENT.

CONTAINING FULL INFORMATION CONCERNING
ALL ITS FAVOURITE PLACES OF RESORT, BOTH ON
THE COAST AND INLAND.

BY
G. PHILLIPS BEVAN, F.G.S.

~~~~~  
*WITH MAP AND PLANS.*  
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SECOND EDITION.

LONDON:
EDWARD STANFORD, 55, CHARING CROSS, S.W.

—
1878.



PREFACE.

A CHEAP and portable guide-book seems a fitting accompaniment to a cheap tour; and the Editor has endeavoured to produce one which shall fulfil this purpose, while it directs the attention of the traveller to all that is worth seeing. Superfluous description has been avoided, the object of the work being merely to denote the leading points, and thus not to encumber the tourist with unnecessary remarks, which entail a more or less bulky volume.

1876.

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[Each place is described where marked by capital letters.]

HANDBOOK OF KENT.

(A)—GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

BEFORE commencing in detail to lay out plans for a tour, it is well to study the general outlines and features of the county, which are here given as briefly as possible.

The county of Kent is the ninth largest in England, and covers 1624 square miles. For many reasons—geographical, historical, physical, and commercial—it may be looked upon as the corner stone of Old England; for it is her chief buttress, as it were, against the seas; the route by which nine-tenths of visitors to Britain always approach and always leave her; while the wealth of untold millions comes to the metropolis along the silent highway of the Thames, which washes the Kentish coast. Intrinsically, too, Kent ranks high amongst English counties from her historical associations, her antiquarian remains, her opulence and fertility, and the beauty of her scenery. Her boundaries are: on the N. the Thames, which separates her from the county of Essex, and farther east, the open waters of the North Sea; on the S. the county of Sussex and the English Channel; on the E. and S.E. the Straits of Dover; and on the W. the county of Surrey. The physical features of the county are well marked and easily understood, the hill and valley districts alternating with a singular unanimity of character and direction. There are no mountains or even hills of any magnitude, though there is plenty of high ground, varying from 300 to 800 feet. Commencing with the alluvial valley of the Thames, is a belt of wooded hill running parallel with and a short distance from the river, and forming Greenwich and Shooter's hills,

geologically consisting of the tertiary beds of the London clay, and continuous, in fact, with the beds of the London basin. Although to the S. these beds are soon succeeded by the underlying chalk, they are seen for a considerable distance eastward, forming the greater part of Sheppey island, and not dying out until Herne Bay is reached. The underlying chalk increases in thickness towards the S., until it culminates in the North Downs, a long stretch of rolling high ground with a southern escarpment, entering the county near Westerham and continuing as far as Maidstone with scarcely a check, at an average height of 600 to 800 feet. The tertiary district is intersected by the stream of the Ravensbourne, which rises at Keston, and flows past Lewisham to join the Thames near Deptford; and the chalk district of the North Downs is watered by the Cray and Darent, which run from S. to N., and jointly enter the Thames near Dartford. The great river-valley of the Medway, the principal river in Kent, which rises S. of Edenbridge, and flows past Tunbridge and Maidstone to Rochester and Chatham, for a time deflects the chalk range, which follows its left bank and runs N. to form the high ground about Gravesend, sending out a low spur into the district between Gravesend and the Medway; but on the other side of the valley the chalk hills reappear, and run E. in a most marked and conspicuous range by Lenham and Charing, soon after which they are again interrupted by the Stour valley. N.E. we find these hills occupying the country between Wye, Chilham, and Canterbury; S.E. they continue to Folkestone and Dover, the cliffs between these two places and Walmer rising up to a noble height—the white walls of Old England. To the N. of Canterbury and Walmer the high grounds give way to a large expanse of marshy alluvial land, through which the Stour flows into the sea near Sandwich, and which, in the days of the Roman occupation, was covered with salt water. The chalk, however, reappears in the Isle of Thanet, and attains a considerable thickness in the cliffs of Ramsgate and the North Foreland. Thus it will be seen, that with the exception of the strip of London clay bordering the river, fully one half the county is occupied by the chalk.

To the S. of a line drawn through Sevenoaks, Maidstone, and Ashford, a different arrangement prevails.

From underneath the chalk emerges a thin belt of gault, succeeded by a thicker one of the lower greensand, composing the high and picturesque ridge of hills between Sevenoaks and Tunbridge, and which, farther E., are seen in the Quarry hills on left of the S.E.R., crowned by the church towers of the Sutton villages. The gault and greensand are also found cropping up from below the chalk at Folkestone. The remainder of the county, viz. that between Tunbridge and the Sussex border, extending S.E. to Hythe, is occupied by the Weald clays, forming the district known as the Weald of Kent, and containing most fertile and beautiful scenery. Although there are no regular chains of hills in this portion, the ground is very broken and varied, and some of the elevations, such as at Goudhurst, Bedgbury, and near Tunbridge Wells, are from 300 to 500 feet in height. The most southerly corner of Kent is occupied by the Romney Marshes, which, like those of the Stour, are of historic date. Though not scenically interesting, they are of much importance to the county from their rich lands and pastures. Fuller, in his description of Kent, drew good distinctions when he divided the county into "health without wealth," or in other words, the high, breezy, comparatively barren land of the chalk; "wealth without health," or the aguish, damp, rich soil of the marshes; and "health and wealth together," or the pleasant, fertile valleys between the two.

For the purposes of historical mention of Kent, it will suffice to divide the subject into three brief heads—(a) British, Roman, and Saxon occupations; (b) Mediæval; (c) Present; so that the tourist may be able to see at a glance the different groups of the most interesting remains. In the times of the very early settlers, the interior of the county would seem to have been occupied by vast woods, one of which is particularly mentioned as Andred's wood, which came down nearly to the marshes at Appledore. Of this almost primeval forest traces are still found in buried trees and roots; but even after this had disappeared, the country in general was for centuries covered with forest and brushwood, especially in districts like the Weald. The number of places having names ending with "hurst" sufficiently betoken their broken and wooded character; and it is mentioned that even in the days of Elizabeth, the Great

Hurst woods near Mereworth were famous for their herds of savage swine. The termination "den," which is so exceedingly common as to be almost the rule in the Weald, also indicates forest clearings, in which the cattle or swine were pastured.

As a memorial of early inhabitants, probably there is no county in Britain more valuable than Kent, as from its position it naturally received the first shock of the visits of strangers, whether friendly or otherwise. Of British remains there are not a few in the shape of camps and sepulchral stones, such as Kits Coity house, near Aylesford, and the stone circles and avenues between it and Addington. The curious chalk excavations at Crayford and Dartford, although more obscure, are generally thought to be of British date, and as they are called locally "Danes' pits," they are evidently connected in some way with the invasion of the Danes. It is known that they were worked as chalk-pits in the time of the Romans; but as that people notoriously utilised the existing resources of all countries which they conquered, it is probable enough that these excavations were of earlier date. Of the Roman occupation itself, during the four centuries of their rule in England, there are numerous traces, and the interest of their works is intermixed in a curious manner with the physical changes that have taken place in the conformation of the land.

The actual spot in Kent where Cæsar landed, B.C. 55, is uncertain, some fixing it at Deal, some at Pevensey in Sussex, and others on Romney Marsh. But wherever it might have been, the Romans left in their towns and stations very tangible proofs of their existence. Durovernum (Canterbury), Dubræ (Dover), Durobrivæ (Rochester), and Duroleum (perhaps Faversham), still remain as the modern representatives of their chief Kentish towns; but of the great fortresses of Rutupiæ (Richborough), Regulbium (Reculver), and Portus Lemanis (Studfall Castle), only a few walls are left, showing the ground plan, where the legions for so many years had their British quarters. For roads there were the Watling Street, the Stone Street, and other evidently Roman ways, each one of which is made clear, not only by the names of the places in the vicinity, but also by the traces of residence and human life which have so frequently been discovered—Roman pottery on the mudbanks of the Medway and the marshes

of Romney, Roman villas and baths near Aylesford and Hartlip, while the neighbouring churches very frequently show the Roman bricks and masonry in their buildings. It is singular too to notice the changes that have come over the outline of the county since the Roman era. It is not likely that either Richborough or Studfall would ever have been built where they are, if the coast had been then as it is now, for they would have been useless for strategical or any other purpose; but it is clear that what is now dry (if marshy) land was then tidal water, and that the galleys had easy access to the harbours and fortresses which are now so far inland. History speaks of alterations in the course of the Rother, as far as Studfall is concerned, and it is not difficult to understand that the courses of the Stour or the Wantsum had undergone equal changes, and that these rivers were in fact comparatively innovations. Hengist and Horsa, representing the Saxon era, landed in 449 at Ebbsfleet, near Ramsgate; and we accordingly find that the Isle of Thanet and that portion of Kent in particular were most affected by the Saxons, at all events as far as their remains are concerned, for within a district of some 7 or 8 miles no less than three Saxon cemeteries have been found, viz. at Osengall, near Ramsgate; Sarr, near Minster; and Gilton, near Ash; while various barrows, yielding relics, have been opened at different times by antiquaries on the downs near Chartham and elsewhere. The next great invasion of Kent was a peaceful and religious one, viz. the landing of Augustine, 597, who brought with him the blessings of Christianity, and speedily converted King Ethelbert to the new faith. Rochester and Canterbury date their existence as Christian churches from his arrival; and this fact, with the subsequent results, is enough to place Kent in the first rank for interesting associations. Indeed, these three great landings of foreign visitors, all of whom have contributed so powerfully to form and mould the character of the inhabitants of Great Britain, may be said to be the most important points in Kentish history, for, subsequent to the Conquest, the men of Kent lived far more quietly than the inhabitants of most English counties during the troublous mediæval times.

b. The murder of Archbishop à Becket by the four knights, which shocked all England, and indeed the ecclesiastical world generally, was nevertheless the making of

Kent in many ways, for the shrine at Canterbury was regarded with such amazing veneration, that pilgrims from all parts of the civilized earth wended their way thither in crowds, and brought trade, commerce, power, and influence in their train. From that moment Canterbury became the apple of the eye of the English Church, and has ever since maintained its position. The mediæval antiquities which are scattered through the county can vie in interest and extent with those of a similar class in any county in England: Dover, Rochester and Canterbury for Norman fortresses; Tunbridge, Saltwood, and Allington for those of later date; while for fortified houses and mansions were Hever, Leeds, Westenhanger, &c. Of churches there are many examples, including the Saxon of Lyminge, the Norman of Barfreston, Patricxbourne, St. Margaret's, and Rochester Cathedral, and great numbers of Early English, Decorated, and Perpendicular; indeed, there are few churches in Kent which in some shape or other will not repay examination by the ecclesiologist, while the ecclesiastical remains scattered throughout Kent are numerous and of very high interest. Canterbury and its neighbourhood will of itself require several days' work on the part of the minute and earnest antiquary.

c. The modern distribution of Kent is into five lathes, which comprise sixty-one hundreds, and include ten municipal boroughs, viz. Deal, Dover, Faversham, Folkestone, Gravesend, Hythe, Sandwich, Maidstone, Tenterden, and Margate. All these, together with the city of Rochester and the city of Canterbury (a county in itself) have separate courts of quarter sessions, irrespective of the general court of quarter sessions for the county. All these boroughs, with the exception of Gravesend and Maidstone, are included in the Cinque Ports. These Cinque Ports were probably an institution of Norman age, and perhaps existed under some form during the Roman era. The original ports were Sandwich, Dover, Hythe, Romney, and Hastings, and subsequently Winchelsea and Rye, while nearly all the places near the seashore, and a good many some distance from it, such as Tenterden and Fordwich, became supplementary members of the real ports. Each member of the Cinque Ports was bound to provide a certain number of ships and men for the king's service (in Henry III.'s reign an aggregate of seventy-two ships), forming, in fact, the pith and pick of the British navy; and as the

expenses and responsibilities were great, so were the privileges of each port and the power of the Cinque Ports as a whole. They had not only courts and corporations for managing their own affairs, but they had parliamentary representatives and special privileges, such as being exempt from military duties, and having prominent offices and places at coronations and state occasions, so that, combined with the trade and commerce attached to them, it is no wonder that the Cinque Ports were amongst the most flourishing and powerful in England. But in the shifting of time they have lost their importance, and the greater number of them are ports only in name. Their harbours have silted up, the trade has disappeared, and the towns themselves languish in stagnation. The office of Lord Warden, once so coveted, is now merely honorary, with certain perquisites, such as the right to inhabit Walmer Castle, and it has always been held by some prominent nobleman. The Duke of Wellington was Lord Warden at the time of his death, and the office is now held by Earl Granville. In addition to the boroughs above mentioned, there are two or three of those little obsolete boroughs which seem to exist only as a farce, such as Queenborough, Fordwich, and Lydd. In the two former, after deducting the mayor and corporation, there is scarcely any population left. New Romney is also a borough, and possesses a Liberty, as does the Isle of Sheppey.

For parliamentary purposes Kent is divided into the three sections of East, West, and Mid Kent, each of which returns two members. The population returns (extra-metropolitan) are as follows, according to the Census of 1871:

Males	312,931
Females	316,195
Total	<hr/> 629,126 <hr/>

while that of the principal places is:

Canterbury	20,962
Dover	28,506
Maidstone	26,237
Rochester	18,388
Gravesend	27,493
Chatham	45,792
Greenwich	169,361

The railway accommodation throughout the county is entirely afforded by two companies, the South-Eastern and the London, Chatham, and Dover. Compared with the railway facilities given by the great companies north, west, and east of London, Kent suffers sadly; for as a rule, and especially with the South-Eastern, the traffic is conducted so as to afford the minimum of comfort and convenience with the maximum of fares.

As a manufacturing county, Kent does not stand high, although as a seat of the clothing and iron trades it formerly had a great reputation, ere machinery in the one case, and the discovery of pit-coal in the other, were the means of transferring these industries to new districts. Paper is however largely made, particularly on the streams of the Cray and the Darent, which abound in paper mills. The manufacture of bricks may be said to be another great Kentish trade, especially in the neighbourhoods of Sittingbourne and Faversham, where the low lands on the banks of the Swale furnish particularly suitable clays. In the same districts are cement, powder, and guncotton works. Large numbers of hands find employment in the Government establishments at the Woolwich Arsenal and the dockyards of Chatham and Sheerness, while the same may be said of the locomotive and carriage department of the S.E.R. at Ashford. It is, however, as an agricultural county that Kent so excels, and particularly in the speciality of hops, which, though grown largely in other counties, form an almost typical Kentish industry. In those portions of the shire which are suited to their cultivation, immense numbers of acres are annually planted as hop gardens, the more thickly, perhaps, as the line of demarcation as to where a hop will and will not grow is so curiously marked. Even within a few miles, too, the character of the hop plant differs very considerably, so much so, that certain very limited districts are much more valuable for their known yields and qualities than others. The Maidstone district is the richest and most prolific, and especially that part to the S. lying between Watlingbury and Paddock Wood. The hop country extends N.E. as far as Faversham, and from thence to Canterbury and Wingham, beyond which towards the E. or S., no hops are seen, while Sevenoaks appears to mark the boundary on the west. Immense sums of money are annually embarked in the

hop plantations, which in a fruitful and fortunate season realise correspondingly heavy returns; but there are so many vicissitudes attending the cultivation, in the shape of mould, greenfly, rust, lice, and other disagreeables, that the trade is at best an uncertain and risky one. It gives employment, however, to a vast number of people, not only during the growth of the plant, but at the period of hop picking, when London turns out her thousands of the poorer classes, who seize the opportunity to make an honest penny, and to combine with it the unaccustomed sensation of fresh country air.

It has already been shown how much there is in this county to interest the antiquary and the lover of churches. The student of natural history and the geologist will also find plenty to reward their researches. Kentish lanes and byeways are famous for their wild flowers, and in the marshes on the N. and E. and on the chalk downs are many special treasures for the botanist. There are not very many different geological strata in the county, but such as there are are exceedingly rich in fossils. For tertiary and London clays the best spots are along the cliffs of Sheppey as far as Whitstable. The brick earth and gravels of Crayford and the drift of Aylesford have yielded huge mammalian bones; the chalk in certain districts, such as Charing, Lenham, Burham, abounds in typical chalk fossils and fish remains, while the lower greensand round Maidstone has yielded rare specimens of vegetation, as well as of the monster reptile, the *Iguanodon*. The greensand and the gault of Folkestone too are very fossiliferous, and will well repay examination.

(B)—RAILWAY EXCURSIONS.**L. LONDON TO SEVENOAKS, TUNBRIDGE, ASHFORD, AND
DOVER (S.E.R.).**

Distance to Dover, 77½m. Time: (mail) 1h. 46min.; (ordinary) 2h. 45min. Fares: (mail) 20s., 15s.; (ordinary) 18s. 6d., 13s. 6d., 6s. 9d. Refreshment rooms at Tunbridge, Ashford, and Dover.

CHARING CROSS TERMINUS is ten minutes' journey from CANNON STREET STATION, and LONDON BRIDGE STATION (also a terminus of L.B.S.C.) is reached in four minutes more. The railway then runs for some distance parallel with the L.B.S.C., and passing SPA ROAD STATION, through the densely-populated district of Bermondsey and its leather factories, (l.) Peek and Frean's large biscuit works. Crossing the Surrey Canal, the county of Kent is entered; (l.) branch to Greenwich.

5 NEW CROSS STATION. Near this is the Naval School, founded 1833, for the sons of naval and marine officers in poor circumstances.

6 ST. JOHN'S STATION. Cross under L.C.D.R. branch to Blackheath; (l.) branch to Lewisham. Cross over Ravensbourne river and Mid-Kent railway to Beckenham and Croydon; (l.) Dartford loop line by Lee and Eltham, with Shooter's Hill in the distance.

8½ GROVE PARK STATION. (Rt.) distant view of Crystal Palace, Penge, and Anerley. Passing through a tunnel 1000 yards, the railway reaches

11 CHISLEHURST STATION. Rt. is St. George's church, Bickley, built 1865; Chislehurst village is some little distance off (l.), charmingly situated on high ground. The church (restored 1849) is Perpendicular, and has monuments to Sir P. Warwick, 1667, a friend of both Charles I. and Charles II.; also brasses to Sir Edmund Walsingham and his son (sixteenth century), with others of less note. The churchyard is beautifully kept, and well shaded with trees. Sir Nicholas Bacon (Queen Elizabeth's Lord Keeper) was born here, and

close to the station (l.) is the residential estate of Camden Park, now built over, but once the residence of Camden the antiquary, died 1623. Camden Place has been for some years the retreat of the Empress Eugenie and the Prince Imperial. The Emperor Napoleon died here 1873, and his remains are laid in a side chapel, added for the purpose by the Empress to St. Mary's Catholic chapel. The church of the Annunciation was built 1870, and Christ church 1872. Here also are St. Michael's Orphanage and the Governesses' Benevolent Institution.

Cross L.C.D.R. to

14 ORPINGTON STATION. It is a charming walk down the valley of the Cray (a good trout stream) to Orpington village, 1m. The church (Norman and Early English) has brasses to W. Gulby, 1439, T. Wilkinson, 1511, and J. Gover, 1522, former vicars. Queen Elizabeth was entertained here in grand style by Sir Philip Hart, 1573. Lower down are the villages of St. Mary Cray, St. Paul's Cray, Footscray (p. 112), and Crayford (p. 52). The line crosses the Cray valley on a very lofty viaduct. St. Mary Cray and L.C.D.R. viaduct are on l. in distance, and rt. (though not visible) are Farnborough and Green Street Green.

15½ CHELSFIELD STATION, in a deep chalk cutting. The church (on high ground, l.) has alabaster monument to Alderman Collet, 1607, an altar-tomb to R. de Brun, rector, 1417, and two brasses.

Two tunnels, respectively half a mile and 1½m., at the end of which a fine view opens out of the vale of Darent. Between the two is

17 HALSTEAD STATION, for Knockholt. L. is the chalk range, at foot of which runs L.C.D.R. to Sevenoaks and Maidstone. In front are the wooded hills of Sevenoaks, and (rt.) Chevening, Knockholt Beeches, and the valley running up to Westerham (p. 111).

19½ DUNTON GREEN STATION. Rt. the village of Riverhead, on the Darent, which is here crossed, Chipstead Place (Mrs. Candy), and Montreal (Lord Amherst).

22 SEVENOAKS STATION. (*Junction with L.C.D.R., which has another station at the Bat and Ball. Fares from London: (express) 6s., 4s.; (ordinary) 5s., 3s. 6d., 2s. 1d. Coach to London during the summer. Pop. 4118. Hotels: Crown, Royal Oak, Bligh's. Distances: Tunbridge, 7½m.; Hildenborough, 5m.; Knole, 1m.; Otford, 2½m.; Seal, 2m.; Chevening, 3m.; Westerham, 4½m.; Farnborough, 9½m.*)

Sevenoaks is charmingly situated on high ground nearly 1m. from the station, and in a most lovely neighbourhood. It consists mainly of two streets, converging at the S. end, near which is the church (Perpendicular), which has monuments of the Amherst family and that of Lambarde, one of whom (William Lambarde, 1601) wrote a history of Kent. The almshouses and grammar school were founded by William Sevenokes, Lord Mayor, *temp.* Henry V. Grote the historian was educated here. Opposite the church are the gates leading to Knole Park (Hon. Mortimer West), one of the noblest seats in England, and until lately the favourite object of pilgrimages into Kent. (*No admission to the house; even that to the park is limited to the set paths.*) The earliest accounts that we have of Knole date from King John, when it was possessed by the Earl of Pembroke. It then passed successively to the Bigods, Grandisons, and De Says. In Henry VI.'s time the son of the Lord Saye and Sele, who was killed by Jack Cade, sold Knole to Archbishop Bouchier, who rebuilt the house and left the property to the See of Canterbury, until Cranmer gave it up to the Crown. During the archbishops' tenures, royalty was often entertained here: Henry VII. by Cardinal Morton, and Henry VIII. by Archbishop Warham. The Duke of Northumberland and Cardinal Pole subsequently held it from the Crown, and on the decease of the latter, Elizabeth gave it (first) to the Earl of Leicester, (second) to Thomas Sackville, Earl of Dorset. Through that family it has descended to the present owner. The great beauty of Knole is, that it is almost unchanged in style, decorations, or furniture from the time of James I., when it was fitted up by the first Earl of Dorset. It is a quadrangular house, principally of Elizabethan architecture, though the influence of the old ecclesiastical possessors is evident in the square-headed windows. As admission is denied, it will be sufficient to briefly enumerate the rooms which used to be shown, viz. the great hall, with dais, fireplace, and music gallery; brown gallery, with stained glass; Lady Betty Germaine's room, spangled bed and dressing rooms, billiard room, Leicester gallery, organ room, Venetian bed and dressing rooms, chapel, anteroom, ballroom, crimson drawing-room, cartoon gallery, King's bedroom, dining room. Most of these apartments contain fine collections of paintings. The park is 5m. round, and skirts the Tunbridge road for a considerable distance.

It is full of the most delicious woodland and forest scenery, but the visitor has not now much opportunity of enjoying it.

In the neighbourhood of Sevenoaks are many nice seats, viz. Kippington (W. J. Thompson), Montreal (Lord Amherst), Wildernesse (Marquess of Camden), Brabourne (F. Crawshay), Chipstead Place (Mrs. Candy), &c.

Excursions :

- a. Otford, 2½m.; Shoreham, 4m.; Lullingstone, 6m. (p. 96).
- b. Brasted, 3m.; Westerham, 4½m. (*omnibus from Sevenoaks station*), returning by Knockholt Beeches and Chevening (p. 109).
- c. Seal, 2m.; Ightham, 4½m.; returning past the Mote (*not shown*) and Under River.
- d. Tunbridge by road, 7m., splendid views throughout. The road skirts Knole Park, and on the descent passes River Hill (J. T. Rogers). A divergence may be made (rt.) at the top of the hill to Sevenoaks Weald church; or still farther, to Ide Hill, where a very handsome church was built in 1865, and thence into the valley by Leigh.

A tunnel of 2½m. carries the railway through a range of greensand hills, and on emerging, charming views are obtained (rt.) of the country about Hever and Leigh.

27 HILDENBOROUGH STATION. L. is the church, and the seats of The Mountains (T. Johnson), and Forbush (— Kemp).

29½ TUNBRIDGE STATION. (*Refreshm. rooms. Junction with Hastings and Redhill branches, S.E.R. Fares from London : (express) 9s., 7s.; (ordinary) 8s., 5s. 6d., 3s. Omnibus to Hadlow and Maidstone; coach to London during the summer. Pop. 8209. Hotel : Rose and Crown. Distances : Tunbridge Wells, 5m.; Penshurst, 5m.; Sevenoaks, 7½m.; Hadlow, 3½m.; Maidstone, 12½m.; Southborough, 3m.; Shipborne, 4m.*) Tunbridge consists of one long main street on l. of station, although a considerable district (St. Stephen's) has grown up on rt. It is a quiet little country town on the banks of the Medway, which here splits up into several streams. Near the bridge is the castle (*no admission*), which has a well-preserved gatehouse of enriched (Early Decorated) character, with round towers at the angles. In the inner

ward are some Norman walls, and the Norman mound on which stood the keep, built by the original possessor, R. de FitzGilbert, who had exchanged a manor with the Archbishop of Canterbury. To him succeeded the De Clares, Audleys, and Stafford, in which latter family the castle still remains. The Lords of this castle had the right of attending the archbishops on state occasions as chief butlers; and also the right of retiring to any one of the archbishops' manors after the banquets, for the purpose of recovering their digestion. The castle was defended by three moats, one of them formed by the Medway, to which an archway in the curtain wall gave access. The church is Decorated, and has effigies of Sir A. Denton and wife (James I.). The grammar school was founded by Sir A. Judd (Edward IV.), and rebuilt 1865. It has the arms of the founder and of the Skinner's Company, who are patrons. Sir Sidney Smith was educated here. Near the bridge is a manufactory of Tunbridge ware.

Excursions:

- a. Hadlow, 3½ m.; Peckham, 6 m.; and Maidstone, 12½ m. (p. 120).
- b. Tunbridge Wells, 5 m.; and Southborough, 3 m. (p. 88).
- c. Penshurst, 5 m., by Bidborough, returning by rail (p. 92).

Between Tunbridge and Ashford the railway runs through a broad fertile valley, watered by the Medway and the Beult, and producing a great quantity of corn and hops. The district between Paddock Wood and Maidstone, indeed, grows the finest hops in Kent. Accompanying the railway, on l., is the long, low range of the Quarry hills, and those of the Kentish and Sussex Weald on rt. On leaving the station are (rt.) the woods of Somerhill (Julian Goldsmid) and the village of Tudeley, while l. is the tall campanile tower of Hadlow, known as May's Folly; and on the hillside beyond, the villages of East and West Peckham and Nettlestead.

34½ PADDOCK WOOD STATION. (*Junction with Maidstone branch, l.*) Brenchley, 2½ m. S., is the parish church, which contains brasses to the Roberts and Courthope families; the clump of trees on the hillside is called Brenchley Toll. Near the village is Mascalls (Major Horrocks), and the Knowle (Dr. Murray).

39 MARDEN STATION. The village and church (restored 1869) on rt. Conspicuous on the hills (l.) are Linton church and Place, 3½m. (Viscount Holmesdale). The latter, a house much praised by Walpole, belonged to the family of Manny (*temp.* Elizabeth), a descendant of which, Robert Mann, built the present mansion. His brother, Sir Horace Mann, was Walpole's friend, and British Minister at Florence. The view is as fine as any in Kent. The church contains the monument of Sir Horace, as also several to the Cornwallis family, the present owners, by *Bailey*. Farther on the same range (l. of railway) is Boughton Monchelsea, famous for its quarries of Kentish rag, in which Professor Buckland found remains of the hyæna and other animals. In the parish are Boughton Place (R. C. Taylor) and Wierton Park (W. Moore).

41½ STAPLEHURST STATION (*coaches to Cranbrook*). The little town is on rising ground 1m. rt. of station, and commands good views. Staplehurst Place (H. Hoare) is an old-fashioned timber house. There is a handsome Board school here.

45 HEADCORN STATION. The village is on the Beult, l. of railway. The church (Perpendicular) has a monument to one of the Colepeppers, the founder (Edward IV.), and some remains of stained glass. A giant oak in the churchyard is said to be one thousand years old. On the hills above are the villages of Chart Sutton, Sutton Valence, and East Sutton, from 3m. to 4m. from Headcorn. Chart Sutton church was burnt by lightning in 1779, and rebuilt in churchwarden's style. Sutton Valence formerly belonged to the Valences, Earl of Pembroke. The grammar school, founded by William Lambe, 1578, was rebuilt by the Clothworkers' Company, 1864, and has a good reputation. A few fragments remain of the Valence's castle, probably a portion of the keep. Nearly 1m. farther E., on the same range of hills, is East Sutton, the church of which has a brass to Sir E. Filmer, wife, and eighteen children, who lived in the seventeenth century at East Sutton Place, a picturesque old Tudor mansion, still belonging to this family. There is another pretty house of the same date at Little Charlton. Ulcomb, the next church to the E., has brasses to the St. Legers. From any one of these villages a walk of 5m. or 6m. through a charming woodland country will bring the tourist to Maidstone.

50 PLUCKLEY STATION. The village (1½ m. l.) commands a fine view over the Weald in the direction of Goudhurst. The church (Early English) contains, in the south chancel, a monument to the family of Dering, who built a portion of it; also brasses to the Malmaynes; the main part of the church was erected by a De Pluckley (Henry II.). Surrenden, 1 m. E., the seat of the Dering family, has a valuable library, with unique MSS. and charters. The same owners have held possession here ever since the original grant by William the Conqueror. 1 m. N. of Pluckley is Little Chart, on the Stour (which rises not far from this at Lenham), the church of which has a monument to one of the Darell family, and a chapel enclosed by a good screen. Cale Hill, adjoining the village, is the seat of the Darells. Rt. of railway, about 2 m. from Pluckley station, is Smarden, a considerable village on the Beult river, with a good church, containing monuments to the Otways and other families. On l. of the railway, towards Ashford, are Hothfield Park (Sir R. Tufton) and Godinton (J. L. Toke). The former is said to have been the spot (out of several) where Jack Cade was captured, in a field, still called after him. The church has a monument to Sir R. Tufton and wife, 1624, the founders. Godinton is an interesting Tudor house, which has remained with the Tokes since Henry VII.'s reign. The family was noted for its extreme longevity; and there is a monument in Great Chart church to a Captain Nicholas Toke, who died æt. 93, after having had five wives. The Stour is soon crossed, and on rt. is the church of Great Chart, which, in days gone by, was of far greater importance than it is now.

53½ ASHFORD STATION. (*Junction with branch to Canterbury, Margate, and Deal; also to Rye and Hastings. Refreshm. rooms. Fares from London: 14s., 9s. 6d., 4s. 10d. Pop. 8548. Hotel: Saracen's Head. Distances: Tunbridge, 24 m.; Maidstone, 18 m.; Charing, 4½ m.; Appledore, 9½ m.; Rye, 26½ m.; Canterbury, 14½ m.; Wye, 4½ m.; Eastwell, 3 m.; Faversham, 12 m.*) Ashford has of late years sprung up from a quiet country town to be one of the busiest places in Kent, owing to the S.E.R. having its railway and engine works here, employing a large number of workmen, who reside principally in South Ashford. A church was built for their accommodation in 1867. Ashford is also the centre of a wide agricultural district. The

church has a fine and very conspicuous Perpendicular tower, nave, N. and S. aisles, transept, and chancel, and was built by Sir John Fogge, 1490, whose monument is in the interior. There are also monuments to the Smythes (sixteenth century), and a brass to a Countess of Athol, 1375, who married a Kentishman, named Malmayns. The only other object of interest in the town is the Whitfield Hall for working men, built 1874. Jack Cade was an Ashford man by birth, though it is somewhat uncertain where he was captured.

Excursions :

- a. Eastwell Park, 3m., late the residence of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh (p. 143).
- b. Wye, 4½m. (p. 68).
- c. Charing, 5m.; Lenham, 8½m.; and Maidstone, 18m. (p. 114).

The line to Dover keeps a S.E. course, gradually approaching the chalk range; 1. Sevington church, and farther N., Willesborough and Hinxhill churches. The former has some brasses and sedilia; and opposite the church is the house where once resided Harvey, the discoverer of the circulation of the blood. Dr. Masters, also, the physician to Queen Elizabeth, in whose house a terrible domestic tragedy took place, also lived here. Farther on, and close to the railway, is Mersham church, with good painted glass, and monument to Sir Walter Knatchbull, 1636. Mersham Hatch, the seat of Sir Wyndham Knatchbull, is three-quarters of a mile N.

60 SMEETH STATION. The church (nearly 1m. l.) has a good Norman arch. Here is the residence of the Right Hon. E. Knatchbull-Hugessen, M.P. Scots Hall, on the road between Smeeth and Sellinge, is the spot whence the Scott family took their name. They claimed to descend from Robert Baliol, and it is mentioned that one of this family entertained one hundred friends daily for thirty-eight years. 1½m. rt. of station is Aldington, where the Archbishop of Canterbury had a hunting-palace (of which there are some remains at the Court) and the right of chase. The church (restored 1876) of which Erasmus was rector 1511, has a remarkably fine tower and W. door, with a brass to S. Wedcol and wife, 1475. At Court-at-Street (1m. E.), Elizabeth Barton (the Nun of Kent) used to give exhibitions of her

impostures and prophecies (sixteenth century). It has, however, a worthier and more ancient reputation, as being, according to Mr. Wright, the Roman station of Belerica, on the Roman road from Lymne to Pevensey. Sellinge church (l. of railway) has a brass to John Bernys and wife, 1440.

63½ WESTENHANGER STATION. (*Junction with Hythe and Sandgate branch.*) Nearly half a mile from station (rt.) is a farmhouse, embodying what is left of the old manor house of Westenhanger (fourteenth century). The walls were defended by a moat and nine towers, three of which are still left. The square central tower is called Rosamond's, from the tradition that her bower existed here. Whether this was so or not, Westenhanger was a royal demesne, it having been sold to Henry VIII. by the son of Sir E. Poynings, who built the house, though the towers and walls were supposed to have been the work of Bertram de Criol (Henry III.). Queen Elizabeth stopped here in 1573. It is a most interesting walk from Lymne through Westenhanger to Canterbury by the Roman road (p. 127). The railway now runs through the charming scenery of Sandling Park (W. Deedes) and Saltwood tunnel. Saltwood Castle (seen on rt.) is best visited from Hythe (p. 123). The chalk hills rise close to the line (l.), bare and conical, one of them crowned by the summer-house of Beachborough (F. Brockman); (l.) Newington church, with brasses, sixteenth century; (rt.) Cheriton church (Early English). Near it is Underhill (Alured Denne).

69 SHORNCLIFFE STATION. The camp, with its huts, accommodating about 5000 men, is on rt., overlooking Sandgate and the sea. There is a singular view as the train crosses the valley above Folkestone by the Ford viaduct. The town and harbour lie far beneath on rt.

71½ FOLKESTONE STATION. (*Junction with branch line to pier, but principally used for tidal trains. Fares from London: (express) 20s., 15s.; (ordinary) 18s. 6d., 13s. 6d., 6s. 9d. Pop. 12,698. Hotels: Pavilion, West Cliff, King's Arms, Clarendon. Steamers to Boulogne daily. Distances: Dover, 7½m.; Sandgate, 1½m.; Shorncliffe, 3m.; Hythe, 5m.; Lymne, 8m.; New Romney, 14m.; Elham, 7m.; Newington, 3½m.; Acrise, 5m.; Paddlesworth, 4m.; Westenhanger, 7½m.*) Folkestone has of late years become a very favourite watering-place, both for residents and summer visitors. The situation is peculiar and romantic. The old town

occupies the hollow and climbs the hill, or rather succession of hills, with narrow, precipitous streets; but the newest and most fashionable portion extends for a mile along the high ground to the W. towards Sandgate. Telford gave the first impetus to the little fishing village by his pier, 1809; and when the railway system reached it, it became one of the principal crossing harbours for France, an immense number of travellers annually passing through to Boulogne. The parish church (on the W. cliff) stands on the site of the old conventual church of the Priory of St. Eanswith, founded by Nigel de Mureville, 1095. This priory (for Benedictines) succeeded the Nunnery of St. Eanswith, originally established within the old castle by King Eadbald, whose daughter Eanswith was canonised, and became the head of the house. This was the first female religious house in England. The old conventual church was washed away, and removed to where the present church of St. Eanswith (restored 1859 by *Hussey*) stands. It contains monuments of Sir J. Segrave, 1349, and J. Herdson (seventeenth century), with a brass to the mother of Harvey, the discoverer of the circulation of the blood, born here 1758. The chancel is Early English, with very high pitched roof. The castle was built on the cliff, on the site of a Roman pharos (or lighthouse), by William d'Avranches; but except a wall near the bailpond, or reservoir, no traces remain. The pier is a pleasant promenade, especially on the arrival of the Boulogne boats; and there is a fine bathing establishment at the foot of the cliffs. The walks and drives in the neighbourhood of Folkestone are numerous and interesting, and the geologist will find good sections of gault and greensand at Copt Point, with plenty of fossils; while the botanist and the entomologist will reap a harvest at the Undercliff. The sea views everywhere are splendid, especially on the cliffs between the church and Sandgate; and the neighbourhood abounds in old churches.

Excursions :

- a. Sandgate, 1½m.; Shorncliffe, 3m.; Hythe and Saltwood Castle, 5m. (p. 122).
- b. Dover, 8m., by the Undercliff (fine orchides), and Peter Becker's Stairs. This is far preferable to the walk to Dover by road, which, with the exception of the sea views on the Folkesto-

side, is monotonous. The points of interest by the Undercliff are the great gun platform, Lydden Spout (a little waterfall which tumbles over the cliffs at the end of Abbot's Cliff), and Peter Becker's Stairs, a series of three hundred and ninety-one steps to the summit, near the coastguard station. Farther on, a path ascends the Shakespeare Cliff. The tourist should not attempt to go round its base. The whole distance is about 8m.

- c. Over the Sugar Loaf Hill to Hawkinge church (Norman), 3m.; thence 3m. N.W., to Acrise church (Norman), monuments and brasses to the Papillons, whose seat is at Acrise Place adjoining. 2m. S. is Paddlesworth, a very interesting little Norman church, with good chancel arch and N. and S. doorways.
- d. Cheriton church (chancel arcade), and Newington church (brasses), and so up to Beachborough (F. Brockman) to see the view from the summer-house. This excursion may be extended to Lyminge, Stouting, and Monk's Horton churches (p. 127), returning by rail from Westenhanger station.

From Folkestone junction to Dover by rail, the traveller passes through a succession of engineering triumphs, viz. the Martello tunnel (766 yards), along the Warren cutting for nearly 2m. (a view, l., of the Undercliff here), through the Abbot's Cliff tunnel (1m.), and finally through the Shakespeare tunnel (1m.). The ground between the two last tunnels was occupied by the enormous Round Down Cliff, which was blown up in 1843 by Colonel Pasley to make room for the railway.

77½ DOVER STATION. (*Railway fares: (mail) 20s., 15s.; (ordinary) 18s. 6d., 13s. 6d., 6s. 9d.* Mail trains run on to the Admiralty pier, where passengers embark for Calais and Ostend. The 'Castalia' also starts from this pier. Pop. 28,506. Hotels: Lord Warden, Dover Castle, King's Head, Shakespeare, Harp, Antwerp. Coaches to Wulmer and Deal. Distances: Folkestone, 6m.; Hougham, 3m.; Walmer, 8m.; Ringwould, 6m.; Deal, 9m.; St. Margaret's Bay, 4m.; Buckland, 1m.; River, 2m.; Ewell, 2½m.; Barfreston, 7½m.; Barham, 8½m.; Canterbury, 16m.) Dover was once the Roman Dubræ, but only commenced to be of importance

after the Conquest. The principal events in its history are, the siege of the castle by the King of France, 1216; its siege and capture by the Parliamentary forces; the arrival and departure of innumerable royalties, from the time of Richard I., who embarked here for Palestine, to the present day. The town is very pleasantly situated on the shore of the bay, guarded by a barrier of lofty or precipitous chalk cliffs, through a break in which, a narrow valley, watered by the Dour (Celtic Dwr, water), runs inland for several miles. The bulk of the town is built at the entrance of this valley, and climbing the slopes of the hills on each side. From its extremely sheltered position, Dover is much in request as a winter residence. As a harbour it is invaluable, and is almost the only one of the Cinque Ports which is of any use, the others being nearly silted up. The docks are capacious, consisting of the Wellington Dock, $11\frac{1}{2}$ acres; the tidal harbour, $7\frac{1}{2}$ acres; and the new Granville dock, 4 acres, opened in 1873. The harbour of refuge was begun in 1847, and is formed by a massive sea wall of concrete and granite, carried out in a curved direction for a distance of 700 yards, and defended at the seaward end by a fort. A large extent of this wall is used as the Admiralty pier, and devoted to the arrival and departure of the mail packets and trains. It forms a splendid seawalk, and is one of the great attractions of Dover. Further extensions and alterations are proposed, which will make Dover one of the largest and most important harbours in England; how far it will be affected as a watering-place, remains to be seen. The castle occupies the summit of a chalk cliff on the E., overlooking the road to Walmer and Deal. (*Admission free, except for the underground works, for which a pass has to be obtained from the commanding officer, R.E., Archcliffe Fort.*) The whole castle occupies 35 acres, and with its many towers, extensive walls, and lines of fortifications, is the beau-ideal of a stronghold, as it certainly is one of the finest examples in England of a Norman fortress. Previous to the Norman era, both Romans and Saxons kept guard here; and probably there was a British fort here even earlier. The only portion of Roman work now visible is the lower part of the pharos or ancient lighthouse, which is built of flint and tufa, with Roman tiles. It is octangular in shape, but the upper half is of much later date. There are also Roman bricks in the masonry of St. Mary

Castro church, which, after being long put to ignominious uses, has been restored by *Sir G. G. Scott*. The church itself is cruciform, consisting of nave, chancel, transepts, and tower of 70 feet. Mr. Puckle, who has written much about the church and castle, considers that its foundation must be placed to Roman account, although from its having been remodelled about the end of the twelfth century, the architectural features are Early English. The other points of interest are the various towers, viz. Constable's tower, of Edwardian date, though originally built by Jas. de Fiennes, one of the earliest Norman constables. Peverell's tower (also Edwardian) guarded the keep court, and was surrounded by a moat, now filled up. The Avranches' tower, built by William d'Avranches, or Abrinces, is remarkable for its depth of foundation and the enormous thickness of its walls (10 feet). The tower of the Colton gateway, near the W. of the pharos, has been much altered, and is of the time of Edward III. Fulbert de Dover's tower forms the present entrance to the castle. The keep is nearly square in shape, with foundation walls 24 feet thick, having a tower 91 feet high and 465 feet above low-water mark. It is of three stages or stories; the first containing the hall with its massive arches; the second the chapel with Norman details; and the third the state apartments. At the very summit is a well, which runs down through the wall, and which is known to be 293 feet deep, the remainder having been filled up with rubbish by French prisoners during the Marlborough wars. On the second floor is an interesting armoury; and in the magazine on the ground floor is a Norman loophole. The other towers are the Fitzwilliam, Earl of Norfolk, Sir R. de Crevecoeur, Sir John de Hirst, Sir J. de Rokesley, Sir R. de Gatton, Sir Stephen d'Ar-sick, &c.; in fact, bearing the names of the Norman knights who had the right of defending the fortress. The remainder of the castle is occupied by barracks or storehouses for the artillery. Below the fine group of officers' quarters is a brass cannon called Queen Elizabeth's pocket-pistol, cast at Utrecht in 1544. It has a Flemish inscription on it. Underneath the castle the cliffs are riddled with galleries and casements, in which two thousand men can find shelter. The view of the Channel and the opposite French coast, with the town and harbour far below, is unique. At the back of the castle (separated by the Deal road) is the Burgoyne

fort, which commands the approaches inland, and holds a number of men. With a few exceptions, the Dover churches are not interesting. Old St. James (well restored), at the foot of the castle hill, is cruciform and Norman, and has a monument to Sir N. Wroxall; St. Mary (one of the most ancient in Dover) has a most interesting Norman tower of the time of Stephen, and contains monuments to Foote, the comedian, and Churchill, though neither of them were buried here. This old church, which formerly belonged to the Priory, is built on a site formerly occupied by Roman baths. St. Martin's Priory (near the L.C.D.R. Priory station) was erected for Benedictines by Archbishop Corboil, 1132, and the Decorated and Early English gatehouse is in good preservation. The refectory and dormitory (restored and now used as the Dover College) has very good Early English details, and an arcade carried all round the interior. There is also a portion of the Priory used as a store-house. The Maison Dieu (now the townhall, in Biggin Street) was originally built by Hubert de Burgh (*temp.* Edward I.) as an hospitium for pilgrims. It has some good stained glass and portraits, a Charles II., by Vandyck, Queen Anne, by Kneller, and various Dover celebrities. The other objects worth notice are the Museum; the National Sailors' Home, in Blenheim Square, in front of which is a Russian mortar, taken at Hangs; and the monument, in Camden Square, to those of the 60th Rifles who fell in the Indian mutiny. The tourist should also ascend the Western Heights, either by the Military road or by means of the circular shaft driven through the chalk cliff from out of Snargate Street. Large barracks are built on these heights, which command views even more extensive than the castle heights. The fortifications are on a gigantic scale, and include the citadel, the Hospital, the Drop redoubt, and Archcliffe fort. On the Heights also are remains of a Knight Templar's round church, discovered 1806.

Excursions:

- a. River, 2m.; Ewell, 2½m.; Shepherd's Well, 6m.; and Barfreton church, 7½m. (p. 40).
- b. Folkestone, by Archcliffe Fort, Shakespeare's Cliff, and the Undercliff.
- c. St. Margaret's Bay, 4m.; the South Foreland, Kingsdown, 6m. (p. 134).

- d. Walmer and Deal (p. 132). There is a tunnel cut through the chalk at the end of the East cliff, which considerably shortens the way to St. Margaret's. At certain times, however, firing is being practised by the garrison in the Long Valley, and this route is then interdicted, and the visitor turned back by the sentry. In this case a round has to be made by following the Deal road to the top of the hill, and then cutting across to the cliffs.
- e. St. Radigund's Abbey, 3m., founded 1190 for Præmonstratensian canons. An interesting gateway and walls. Return to Dover by the Alkham valley.

Railway Excursions.

II. LONDON TO ROCHESTER, CHATHAM, FAVERSHAM, AND DOVER (L.C.D.R.).

[Canterbury is described at p. 70, and Dover at p. 20].

Distance to Dover, 78m.; time: (express or mail) 2h. 10min., (ordinary) 3½h. Fares: 18s. 6d., 13s. 6d., 6s. 9d.

The tourist can leave London from (1) VICTORIA, (2) HOLBORN, or (3) LUDGATE HILL STATIONS of this line, the junction of the West End and City sections being at HERNE HILL STATION. Cross under the L.B.S.C. line to Sutton, passing (1.) the new buildings and playground of Dulwich College, and catching a glimpse of the Crystal Palace, as the train burrows under the hill at

SYDENHAM STATION. On the other side is

PENGE STATION, immediately after which the railway passes (1.) the Alexandra colony of model houses for the working classes, and enters Kent near

8 BECKENHAM STATION, where the Mid-Kent branch of S.E.R. joins L.C.D.R. Beckenham is a pretty, though now overbuilt, village, embowered in trees, and the neighbourhood abounds in pleasant residences. The church (rt.) has a conspicuous spire and a high church-gate, and contains a monument to Capt. Hedley Vickers, who fell at Sebastopol. Margaret Finch, the queen of the gipsies, is buried in the churchyard, died æt. 110. A new church was consecrated 1876. The country around is of true Kentish scenery, and the walks are both pretty and numerous.

Excursions :

- a. West Wickham, 4m., and Hayes Common 4m. (p. 108).
- b. Sundridge Park and Chislehurst (p. 10).
- c. Bromley and Bickley, and thence by Orpington to St. Mary Cray.

10 **SHORTLANDS STATION.** The church (rt.) is charmingly situated.

11 **BROMLEY STATION** (*Omnibus to Keston.* Pop. 10,674. *Hotel: White Hart*) is pleasantly situated on high ground to l., although in itself it does not contain very much of interest. The church (rebuilt 1829, and restored 1873) is Perpendicular, and has good stained glass by *Willement*, a monument to Dr. Johnson's wife (he having once resided at Bromley), with an inscription by himself, and two brasses (fourteenth and sixteenth centuries). There is also another church at Bromley Common, built 1841. The townhall is recent and of Elizabethan style. The Bromley College is a Tudor quadrangular building, with a chapel, founded originally by Bishop Warner (Rochester) for twenty, and now increased to forty, clergymen's widows. The Sheppard College is a similar institution for five maiden ladies, daughters of the same, who have resided in the old college. The palace formerly built by Bishop Gundulf for the See of Rochester is now represented by a private house of no particular interest. St. Blaize's well still exists in the grounds, but the old oratory has long been destroyed.

Excursions :

- a. Hayes, 2m.; Keston, 4m.; and on to Farnborough (p. 109).
- b. Chislehurst (p. 10) by Sundridge Park (S. Scott).
The late Dr. Mantell, the geologist, described an interesting conglomerate in the park, made up of oystershells.

12 **BICKLEY STATION.** This is a favourite residence with Londoners. Note the old English character of the houses near the line, which here crosses underneath the S.E.R. St. George's church (l.), built 1865.

15 **ST. MARY CRAY STATION.** The valley of the Cray is crossed on a fine viaduct, high above the village and Messrs. Joynson's paper mills, which employ the bulk of the population. The church (Perpendicular) is cruciform, with N. and S. chapels, and has brasses to J. Moyson,

1479; Alice Lorde, 1515; Rd. Avery and his three wives, 1588; with effigy of Margaret Crewes, 1603. The brasses of the Greenwoodes, 1775, are specially interesting, as being the latest known (not modern).

Excursions :

- a. Up the valley of the Cray to Orpington, 2m. (p. 11).
- b. Down the valley to (1m.) St. Paul's Cray (Early English church), 1½m. Footscray church, with brass and effigy to Sir Simon de Vaughan (Edward III.). Thence to Sidcup and Bexley (*stations, North Kent Railway*). The Cray valley is dotted with paper mills.

17 SWANLEY STATION. (*Junction with Sevenoaks and Maidstone branch*; p. 95.)

21 FARNINGHAM ROAD STATION. The lovers of old churches may spend a very pleasant day in this neighbourhood.

a. Rt. three-quarters mile on the Darent is Horton Kirby church, cruciform and Early English, once belonging to the Knights Hospitallers. It contains a brass to one of the Bathursts, and a monument to a De Ros, a former owner of Horton Kirby Castle, of which there are some slight remains. It was afterwards possessed by the Kirbys (Edward I.). Franks, once the seat of the Bathursts, is a modernised Elizabethan house (F. Power), with a splendid hall, engraved in Nash's 'Halls of England.' In this parish is the Home for Little Boys, three hundred of whom are maintained in ten houses on the cottage system. Farningham (*Hotel: Lion*) is a decayed little town, very pleasantly situated amidst the chalk hills. The church (Early English) has a Perpendicular carved font, and brasses to Sir W. Gysborne, H. Firebrace, Alice Tailen, T. Sibyll, and W. Petham, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The walk may be continued to Eynsford (p. 95). (*Station, Maidstone branch*.)

b. L. to Sutton-at-Hone church (Decorated), with monument to Sir T. Smith, an East Indian governor (*temp. Elizabeth*), who lived at Sutton Place. Darenth (or Darne) has a most interesting Roman church (restored 1868), the chancel of which is divided into two. The E. portion is vaulted, and contains a small chamber above. One of the nave windows is built with Roman bricks, and as this church was given by Eadulf to the See of Canterbury, the earliest portions were probably built at the

same time and by the same builders as parts of that cathedral.

The railway now passes (l.) Longfield church and (rt.) Fawkham church, with brasses (seventeenth century), and very good stained glass representing W. de Fawkham in a palmer's dress.

26 MEOPHAM STATION. The village is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. in a charmingly wooded chalk district. The church was given with Darenth by the Saxon Duke Eadulf to Canterbury, and was afterwards rebuilt by Archbishop Simon de Meopham, fourteenth century.

Nursted Court (l.) contains portions of an old manor house, fourteenth century, built by the family of De Gravesend.

27 SOLE STREET STATION. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. (l.) is the village of Cobham, at the entrance of Cobham Park (Earl of Darnley). Though Cobham is usually visited from Rochester or Gravesend, Sole Street is the nearest station. The village (*Inn: Leather Bottle*, immortalised in 'Pickwick') is charmingly situated, and has some objects of great interest. The church (Early English) has chancel, nave, aisles, and a picturesque entrance porch, together with the stalls belonging to the priests of the old chantry. It is, however, principally celebrated for its brasses, which, for number and preservation, are unique. There are twenty-four of the dates of the fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth centuries, the chief of which are as follows: John de Cobham, Constable of Rochester, 1354; Sir T. de C., 1367; Maude de C., 1380; Margaret de C., 1375; John de C., founder of the college and church, 1365; Joan de C.; Sir Reginald Braybrooke, 1405, and his wife, 1433; Sir J. Brooke and wife, 1506, with eight sons and ten daughters (a fine group, though the knight is absent); Sir T. Brooke, 1529, wife, seven sons and five daughters; Sir R. de C., 1402; Joan de C., with six sons and four daughters, 1433. There are also brasses to some of the Masters of the College, which Sir John de C. founded, 1365. The ruins of the old college or chantry are near the church, and consist of a little bit of cloister wall. At the Dissolution this chantry was sold, and the new college built by Lord Cobham (*temp.* Elizabeth). It has apartments for twenty pensioners, and a fine old hall. From the village a noble avenue of limes leads to Cobham Hall, a red-brick mansion, consisting of two Tudor wings connected by a centre block, designed by Inigo Jones, the

latter built by the Earl of Lennox in James I.'s time. The house is approached by a Tudor gateway (*admission on Friday only, by ticket obtained at the bookseller's in Rochester (Cadell) or Gravesend. The money is given to the maintenance of Cobham School*). The family of Cobham resided here since the reign of John. In James I.'s reign the then Lord Cobham was attainted, and the estates granted to the Earl of Lennox, through whom they have descended to the present owner. The principal rooms shown are the dining room, music room, with sculptured chimneypiece, by *Westmacott*, after Guido's 'Aurora,' a ceiling by Inigo Jones, and a Vandyck of the Duke of Lennox's sons. The library, with portrait of Sir Philip Sidney. The portrait and picture gallery, the last containing splendid examples of the Venetian, Florentine, Netherlands, French, and Spanish schools. Amongst the most celebrated paintings here are Titian's "Rape of Europa," Rubens' "Queen Tomyris dipping Cyrus' Head into Blood," Salvator Rosa's "Death of Regulus," Vandyck's "Duke of Lennox," &c. Cobham Park (7m. round) contains exquisitely varied woodland scenery, particularly at the spot where the chestnut-tree, called the Four Sisters, is placed. See also the view from the Mausoleum or William's Hill. The historical facts connected with Cobham are the visit of Charles I. and his queen after their marriage at Canterbury, and the capture of the Hall by the Parliamentary soldiers in 1643.

2m. N. is Shorne church (Decorated), which has the altar-tomb and effigy of Sir H. de Cobham (Edward I.), several brasses, and a font sculptured with sacred subjects.

Emerging from a deep cutting in the chalk, a fine view is gained of the Medway, with Rochester Castle on the opposite bank and the tower of the cathedral behind it. The line crosses S.E.R. to

33 STROOD AND ROCHESTER STATION. (*Fares: 5s. 5d., 3s. 6d., 2s. 6d. There is another station S.E.R. for London and Maidstone.*) The suburb of Strood is on l. bank of the river, extending nearly to the range of chalk cliffs, but except a brass in the church to T. Glover and three wives, there is not much of interest. Scarce any remains of the old Hospital for travellers, founded near the church by Bishop Glanville (*temp. Richard I.*), but there are a few of the Preceptory of Knights Hospitallers at Temple

farm, a little above Rochester bridge. The tourist crosses the Medway by Messrs. Fox and Henderson's new bridge to the ancient cathedral city of ROCHESTER (Pop. 18,388. *Hotels: Crown, Bull (or Victoria), King's Head. Omnibus to Chatham. Distances: Chatham, 1m.; Cobham, 5m.; Gad's Hill, 3m.; Cuxton, 3m.; Wouldham, 3½m.; Burham, 5m.; Kits Coity house, 4½m.; Maidstone, 8m.; Aylesford, 6m.; Shorne, 4m.*), which occupies the ridge of hill overlooking the right bank of the river, and is continuous with Chatham and Brompton. The first Rochester bridge spanned the Medway before the Conquest; the second was built by Sir J. de Cobham and Sir R. Knowles (*temp. Edward III.*), at a point a little higher up; the present one occupies the site of the first, and consists of an iron swing bridge, with a centre arch of 170 feet span and two side arches of 140 feet. The swing arrangement is at the Strood end, and allows a space of 50 feet for vessels to pass. The stone bridge which it superseded was blown up by the Royal Engineers in 1856. The first object of interest in Rochester is the castle, immediately on the river bank, and at the south-west angle of the city walls. A considerable length of the outer defences still exists, guarded at intervals by towers, best seen on the north side from the river, and on the south from near the cathedral. The keep is approached by a modern Norman gateway, leading into a pretty public garden, at the farther end of which rises the splendid keep (*3d. is charged for admission*), one of the finest examples of a Norman fortress in England, and remarkable for its very massive masonry. In shape it is quadrangular, about 70 feet square, and 100 feet high, of three stages or stories, with a small corner tower at each angle. A second smaller tower is attached to the south-east angle, through which lay the chief entrance through an enriched gateway. The first or lowest story contained the rooms for the retainers and guards, and in the second are the state rooms, marked by some fine arches and pillars in the massive partition wall which divides the castle inside into two portions. Within this partition is a well, running from top to bottom. The view from the third story (which is well protected) is remarkably fine, embracing all Rochester and Chatham, with long sweeps of the Medway, set, as it were, in a framing of chalk hills. The spire on the high ground above Strood is that of Frindsbury. The views

inside also at midday, when the sun is streaming down, are very peculiar and beautiful. The builder of this fortress is usually said to be Gundulf, Bishop of Rochester, 1077, while others ascribe it to Odo, Bishop of Bayeux and Earl of Kent. Whichever of them founded the original castle, the present one was rebuilt about the middle of the twelfth century, and is therefore of a later date. Its chief historical episodes are its siege by King John, 1217; and later on, by Simon de Montfort, in which unsuccessful struggle the bridge and part of the city were burnt down. The Archbishops of Canterbury were formerly *ex officio* constables of the castle, but they soon lost this right. The cathedral stands near the castle, and from the plainness of its exterior, and especially of its towers, is somewhat disappointing at first. The best view is that of the N. and N.E. from a point in High Street. It was originally founded by Augustine, 604, but had not a very prosperous infancy, as it was in a ruined condition at the time of the Conquest. Soon after this, however, Bishop Gundulf, who seems to have been born an architect, came to the see, and immediately set to work to rebuild the church, which he filled with Benedictines. It was completed and dedicated to St. Andrew in 1130, though it was afterwards partially burnt down and underwent great damage during the siege in 1264 by Simon de Montfort, and again during the Parliamentary war. In dimensions the cathedral is small, being only 310 feet in total length, and 68 feet in breadth of nave. Externally the chief points are (a) the Norman W. front, with its magnificent door of five receding arches. The figures are those of our Saviour (in the tympanum), the twelve Apostles, and two statues, supposed to be of Henry I. and his queen Matilda. (b) The central tower, which is of modern date, 1825 (by *Cottingham*), and very poor. (c) Gundulf's tower, behind the W. transept (N. side). It is, however, later than the date of that bishop, and was probably built to preserve the cathedral archives and treasures, for which purpose it had an unusual entrance at the top. Internally the church consists of nave, with aisles; W. transepts, choir, E. transepts, presbytery, chapter-house, and crypt. The nave is Norman, as far as the two last bays at the E. end, where Early English prevails. The great W. window and the clerestory windows are Perpendicular, and very plain when compared with the Norman

triforium arches, which have the peculiarity of opening into the aisle as well as the nave, and are remarkably rich in their details, each one having a different diaper pattern. Monuments in S. aisle to Lord and Lady Henniker, 1792, in the pretentious style of that age. The two last bays of the nave, together with the W. transepts and choir, are Early English, and in style, as well as plan, much resemble Canterbury (on a small scale), which, it must be remembered, furnished the original church, as well as many a bishop and prior. It is small wonder, therefore, that Canterbury influence prevails. Of the western transepts, the N. is the finest and richest. The S. contains the monument of Richard Watts, the founder of the hospital in the High Street, and a brass to Charles Dickens, who lived at Gad's Hill, some little distance from the city, and who was keenly interested in everything about Rochester. Adjoining the S. transept is the Perpendicular chapel of St. Mary (or Lady chapel), well restored. The choir was restored by *Cottingham* in 1830, though a further and much more beautiful restoration has just been completed by *Sir G. G. Scott*. New tiling and new seats (with part of the old miserere woodwork underneath) have been added, while a border of coloured tiles (of which the lowest $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch is old) has been run round the wall above the stalls, surmounted by the arms of all the bishops. The choir is entered from the nave by a flight of steps, rendered necessary by the fact that the crypt is underneath. In the N. choir transept is the monument of St. William, a pilgrim from Scotland, who was murdered on his way hither, and was canonised. The spot on which stood his shrine is marked by a flat stone. Here are also the monuments of Bishop Lowe and Bishop De Merton (thirteenth century). This last was the founder of Merton College, Oxford, and was drowned in crossing the Medway. In the chapel behind are the monuments of the Lee Warner family, and that of Bishop John De Sheppey (fourteenth century), one of the finest specimens known of ancient colouring and ornamentation. In the S. choir transept is a stained glass window to Captain Buckle, who fell in the Ashantee war. The chancel, at the extreme end of the cathedral (also restored by *Cottingham*), is supposed to have contained the shrine of St. Paulinus, third Bishop of Rochester, and a saint of great repute. Here are the monuments of Bishop Gilbert de Glanville, 1215 (founder of the hospitium at Strood),

Bishop Gundulf, 1108 (the builder of the earliest portion of the cathedral, and of the castle), Bishop de St. Martin, 1274, and Bishop Inglethorpe, 1291. A new reredos has been added recently, by *Farmer and Brindley*. On the N. wall of the choir should be noticed a curious bit of wall fresco painting, supposed to represent the wheel of fortune. The chapter-house (S. of the chancel) is remarkable for its magnificent Decorated door, of which there is a fac-simile at the Crystal Palace. The figures represent the Christian and the Jewish churches, surrounded by fathers and angels. The figure at the top is the pure soul for whom the angels are supposed to be praying. The library (in the chapter-house) contains some valuable works and MSS., but the building itself is modern. There is one other chapel in the cathedral besides St. Mary's, viz. St. Edmund's (now the muniment-room), on the N. side of the choir. The crypt is one of the most interesting portions of the church, and extends for the whole length of the choir. Though probably altered when the latter was built, it was originally the work of Bishop Gundulf, and the W. part of the cathedral. E. of the cathedral is the deanery, which has a few Norman details in the interior, and in the garden are some fragments of St. Andrew's Priory (seen from the chapter-house window), founded at the same time as the cathedral, and re-established by Bishop Gundulf, who placed twenty Benedictines in it. St. Mary's chapel, before mentioned, is believed to have been the chapel of the infirmary of the Priory. Of the gateways attached to the precincts three remain, viz. of the deanery, the prior's gate on the S., and that of the college yard, leading from the High Street. S. of the cathedral is the grammar school, famous for the lawsuit instituted and gained about twenty years ago by Mr. Whiston, the head-master, against the trustees, a lawsuit which may be said to have given the start to all subsequent inquiries into the abuses of our schools and charitable societies. Close by is Restoration house, where Charles II. slept for a night, 1661, on his way to London. The other ecclesiastical features of interest are St. Nicholas church, of debased architecture, close to the cathedral, and St. Mary's (restored), a rather interesting church on the summit of the hill to the S., with a splendid view from the churchyard. Just underneath this latter is Boley Hill, which has an artificial mound upon it, together with the modern house of Satis,

which supersedes the old one where Richard Watts lived. Above the church is Fort Clarence, the termination of the defences of Chatham and Rochester in that direction. The other objects of interest are to be found in the High Street, viz. the townhall (*temp.* James I.), marked by a gilt ship aloft; the corn exchange, conspicuous for its enormous projecting clock, given by Sir Cloudesley Shovel; Richard Watts' hospital (restored), founded 1579, for the entertainment of six poor travellers, "not being either rogues or proctors." This hospital and its former abuses are graphically described by Dickens in his tale of 'The Seven Poor Travellers,' and it is satisfactory to note that, with the funds of this charity, some fine almshouses have been built on the Maidstone road. Farther on in High Street is Williamson's school, an excellent (remodelled) institution, and there is a picturesque almshouse on Star Hill. Eastgate house is a good example of Elizabethan date. A few of the old Roman walls are to be seen (Rochester was the ancient Durobrivæ) near the S.E. angle of the castle, but nearly all the defences are of modern date.

Excursions :

- a. Wouldham, 3½m.; Burham, 5m.; and Aylesford, 6m. (p. 58).
- b. Maidstone by road, 8m. (Kits Coity house) (p. 58).
- c. Cobham Hall, 5m. (p. 27).
- d. Gad's Hill, 3m. on the Gravesend road, the residence of the late Charles Dickens, and now of his son. The hill itself was famous in Shakespearean times for the robberies committed on travellers between London and Dover. Frindsbury church, not far from Strood on the Hoo road, has a graceful spire, and a few Norman details.

34 CHATHAM STATION (*Refreshm. rooms. Fares: 5s., 3s. 6d., 2s.* Pop. 45,792. *Hotel: Sun*) is a very different style of place to Rochester, and is one of the busiest military and naval stations in Great Britain. The river, pier, Brompton lines, and the dockyard are on l. of the railway, Fort Pitt on the rt. The dockyard, first begun by Elizabeth where the present Ordnance wharf stands, has of late years been greatly extended, and now stretches all across St. Mary's Isle. (*Admission daily, on writing name and address, at 10 A.M. and 1.30 P.M.* The yard is under the

charge of the Metropolitan Police. Special leave has to be obtained for visiting the rope-spinning factory, or any of the machine shops or foundries. Neither does the leave of admission extend to the convicts' yard on St. Mary's Isle.) The main points of interest, as open to the ordinary visitor, are the building slips, huge sheds, in which there are generally four or five ships of war of the largest size in course of construction; the graving docks; the circular saw and steam hammer; the masthouse, where masts of all kinds and in different stages of preparation may be seen; the repairing basin, of 21 acres; the factory basin, of 20 acres; and the fitting-out basin, of 2½ acres. In the ropery may be seen the process of spinning rope for cables from jute and hemp. The whole of the docks and the Chatham garrison are defended in the strongest manner. The "lines" extend completely across the peninsula formed by the bend of the Medway, viz. from Gillingham fort to Chatham town, and enclose the greatest part of the parish of Brompton. Within the lines are (rt.) barracks for the infantry, (l.) garrison church, barracks for the Royal Marines, on a very extensive scale; (rt.) the Institute, a very handsome building recently erected for the benefit of the soldiers; the Melville hospital, an enormous extent of buildings in blocks; (l.) the dockyard. On the hill farther on are the Engineers' barracks, a very fine square, at the E. end of which is a Crimean archway, and facing this is the School for Military Engineering. Attached to the Engineers' barracks is a model-room and a museum (*admission by introduction of an officer*). In 1667 the Dutch, under their Admiral, De Ruyter, sailed up the Thames, and attacked, first of all, Sheerness, and then Chatham, a chain being stretched across the river at Gillingham fort, and the English fleet lying inside it. But beyond burning some of the English vessels the Dutch did no harm, although they might easily have destroyed Chatham utterly. Chatham itself is a dirty, unpleasant town, devoted to the interests of soldiers, sailors, and marines. Fort Pitt (above the station) is a large military hospital, visited by the Queen during the Crimean war. Here, too, is an interesting museum. St. Bartholomew's hospital is an imposing red-brick pile, used for civil cases. It is the modern development of Bishop Gundulf's hospital for lepers, and possesses a large property in the neighbourhood. Below it is the old chapel, of which the Norman

apsidal chancel still exists. Sir John Hawkins, of Armada fame, also founded a hospital for decayed mariners, which provides for twelve pensioners. Chatham church is uninteresting, but has a brass to Stephen Brough, 1584, a celebrated navigator of that day, and a monument to Sir John Cox, 1672, who fell in an action with the Dutch. The best general view of Chatham and its neighbourhood is obtained from the high ground by Fort Pitt, or by going up Star Hill at Rochester, and then following the brow all the way to Brompton.

36 NEW BROMPTON STATION. L. are seen the "lines" running across the hill to Gillingham fort. Gillingham has a fine old Perpendicular church, with brasses to the family of Beaufitz. There is also a barn, all that remains of the old palace of the Archbishop of Canterbury, with a few Decorated details. The whole of this district is famous for its cherry gardens. William Adams, the discoverer of Japan, was a native of this parish. As the tourist proceeds, he obtains a good view over the widening Medway, with the desolate marshes and mud-banks of Hoo on the N. side. Farther on are the Isle of Grain, Sheppey island, and the junction of the Medway with the Thames. Sheerness itself is not visible from the railway.

39 RAINHAM STATION. Rt. is the Perpendicular church, with a fine tower. It contains the monuments of the Thanet family (Tufton), which has a burial place here, and some brasses. L., 2m., are two interesting churches, viz. Upchurch and Lower Halstow. The former (Early English) was well restored 1876, and has a spire, partly square, partly octagonal; the latter church has Roman masonry in it. The whole of this district is full of Roman tradition and remains. The turnpike road between Chatham and Sittingbourne is the old Watling Street, which led to the sacred shrine of Canterbury, and on to Richborough (Rutupiæ), while the marshes between Upchurch and the river are full of Roman pottery of good form and material. It is evident that pottery was largely made here, and that the ground over a considerable area was subsequently covered with alluvial soil.

41 NEWINGTON STATION. The church (l.) has brasses of fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. At Hartlip, 1½m. W., Roman baths have been discovered, with part of a villa, and other remains at Keycoll, between Newington and Milton, as also at Borden (1½m. S.), the church of

which (restored) has a Norman west doorway and a fine tower. It contains the monument of Plot (1626), the historian of Staffordshire.

45 SITTINGBOURNE STATION. (*Junction with branch to Queenborough and Sheerness. Refreshm. rooms. Fares: 9s. 6d., 6s. 6d., 3s. 11d. Pop. 6148. Hotel: Bull. Distances: Chatham, 11m.; Maidstone, 11m.; Newington, 4m.; Sheerness, 7m.; Queenborough, 4½m.; Faversham, 7m.; Milton, 1m.; Borden, 2m.; Tunstall, 2m.; Bredgar, 3¼m.; Bapchild, 1½m.; Tonge, 2m.*)

Sittingbourne is an ancient and still prosperous town, principally dependent on brickmaking, which employs a large population throughout the district. Being on the highway to Canterbury, it was always a famous house of call for pilgrims, not excepting those of royal degree, such as Henry V., Henry VIII., Queen Elizabeth, Charles II., and, later on, George I. and George II. The old church (restored 1873) has a singular monument of a lady in graveclothes, supposed to have been one of the Lovelace family. The northern suburb of Sittingbourne is formed by Milton, celebrated for its oysters, which abound in the Milton creek and the Swale, and are of the finest quality. A great number of people and a large fleet are employed in the fishery and the transit to London. Milton church (Early English) succeeded an earlier Saxon building, in the porch of which, it is said, Sexburga, the Prioress of Minster, died 680. It contains a brass to a knight. One of the industries of Milton is Lloyd's paper mill, which employs a large number of hands.

Excursions :

- a. Sheerness, 7m., and Sheppey island (p. 47).
- b. Maidstone, 11m. (p. 60).
- c. Bredgar, 3¼m., and Tunstall, 2m., churches. Bredgar is Perpendicular, but has traces of a Norman doorway in the tower. Tunstall is a mixture of Early English and Decorated, and has monuments to Sir J. Cromer, 1613; Sir E. Hales, 1654; R. Cheek, D.D., 1674; with brasses to Sir J. Guildford, 1595; Radulph Wolf, 1525; and Margaret Rycil, 1496. In the parish are Gore Court (G. Smeed), and Woodstock Park (E. Twopeny). 1m. S. of the latter is Milsted church, well restored by *Butterfield*.
- d. Tonge, 2m.; Bapchild, 1½m.; and Redmersham,

2m. The former village is interesting only from tradition. It was the Thwang of the Saxons, and the artificial mound of its fortress still remains. Hengist obtained the land from Vortigern as a reward for his services against the Picts; and here it was that Vortigern yielded up his kingdom of Kent, overcome by Rowena's fascinations. The castle was afterwards the scene of a great massacre of the British by the Saxons. Bapchild church has an Early English arcade, a Perpendicular screen, and brasses to John Kendall and wife, 1529. Rodmersham has an interesting aisled church with sedilia. It once belonged to the Knights of St. John. Lynsted church, 1½m. farther S., has chapels with monuments for the Hugessen and Teynham families; also one to Dame Catherine Drury (Queen Elizabeth). Quitting Sittingbourne, the railway leaves (l.) Tonge and (rt.) Bapchild, both close to the line.

48 TEYNHAM STATION. The church (l.) is a fine cruciform building, with N. and S. aisle, and has brasses to J. Frogenhall, 1444; J. Sutton, 1468; R. Heyward, 1562; and W. Wreke, 1533. New Garden (rt.) occupies the site of a manor house of the Archbishops of Canterbury, where Edward III. was once entertained. They planted a vineyard here, celebrated for its grapes, and the whole district was, as now, famous for its cherries and apples. Between Teynham and Norton (rt.) is the Roman station of Duroleum. The railway now runs through a cutting (on the E. side of which there is a very pretty view) to

52 FAVERSHAM STATION. (*Refreshm. rooms. Junction with Margate and Ramsgate branch. Fares: 12s. 6d., 8s. 6d., 4s. 7d. Pop. 7319. Hotel: Ship. Distances: Sittingbourne, 7m.; Herne Bay, 10½m.; Whitstable, 6½m.; Canterbury, 10m.; Selling, 3m.; Boughton-under-Blean, 3m.*) Faversham stands in a rather picturesque bit of country, some way up Faversham creek, and sheltered on W. by a ridge of wooded hills. The town, with the adjoining villages of Preston, Ospringe, and Davington, has a flourishing trade, dependent partly on the oyster fisheries, which are worked by the Company of Free Dredgers of the Manor, or Hundred. On the creek also are cement, powder, and guncotton works. Faversham has interesting ecclesiastical associations. An abbey was founded here by Stephen

for Cluniac monks, and it obtained such high repute that its abbot sat in Parliament. The name of the Abbey farm and a portion of wall are all that remain of its greatness. The church is a fine cruciform Early English building, restored by *Sir G. G. Scott*. It is remarkable for the breadth of the transepts, which permit them to be divided into three aisles. The height of the spire is 148 feet, and behind the tower is a room, called the treasury, in which the church ornaments were deposited. The visitor should notice in the N. transept and chancel the singular wall paintings of the Nativity and other Scriptural subjects, together with the humorous carvings on the miserere seats. There are also a fine E. window by *Willement*, a tomb with decorated canopy, said traditionally to be that of King Stephen, an effigy to T. Mendfield, and a brass to H. Hache, 1553. Near the church is the grammar school, founded 1527, and close by is a house formerly belonging to "Arden of Faversham," who was savagely murdered by his wife and her paramour, his body being thrown out into the adjoining field. The story is told at length in Holinshed's Chronicles. The remaining buildings in Faversham are of modern date, and include some handsome almshouses and schools. Davington, thought by some to be the Roman Duroleum, was famous for its Priory, founded 1153, for Benedictines, by Fulke de Newnham; but its remains are incorporated in the modern dwelling house of Mr. Willement, of stained glass celebrity. The church is interesting, and has some very early Norman (or perhaps Saxon) windows. It has been ornamented with beautiful colour-gilding by Mr. Willement. Preston church (Early English) has an altar-tomb and effigy of Roger Boyle, grandfather of the Earl of Cork; also effigies of Thomas Finch (1615) and wife, with some brasses (fifteenth century). At Ospringe are a few traces of a Maison Dieu for lepers founded by Henry III. The archæologist should examine the chalk excavations in the neighbourhood of Faversham, which have probably been utilised from a very early date, and are much in repute as temporary residences amongst the gipsy tribes. The main line to Canterbury turns off rather sharply S.E. through a charmingly wooded district.

55 SELLING STATION. The church (rt.) has some excellent stained glass of the thirteenth century. Three quarters of a mile S. is Shottendane Hill, where is a Roman

camp of 2 acres. The view over Blean forest and the distant coast and channel is very beautiful. If possible, the tourist should walk from Faversham to Canterbury, and thus obtain a peep at some of the prettiest woodland scenery in Kent. At Boughton-under-Blean ($1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Selling station) there is a very lovely view. Nash Court (J. P. Lade) and Brenley house (Serjt. Spinks, M.P.). Soon after passing the village of Dunkirk is (L.) Bossenden wood, remarkable for a singular affray in 1838, when a mad impostor, calling himself Sir William Courtenay, was shot, together with some of the lawless country people whom he had collected around him, and who believed in him. The forest scenery at Blean is charming. From Selling station the railway skirts the high ground, from whence there is a fine view (rt.) over the valley of the Stour, with the S.E.R., the village and church of Chartham, the new lunatic asylum on the opposite hill, and the city of Canterbury in the distance. Crossing over the S.E.R. the railway reaches

62 CANTERBURY STATION. (*Refreshm. rooms. Fares: 15s., 10s. 6d., 5s. 4d. S.E.R. station in another part of the city. Pop. 20,962. Hotels: Fountain, Rose, Fleur-de-Lys. Canterbury is described at p. 70.*)

The L.C.D.R. keeps entirely outside and to the S. of the city, passing close to the Dane John (l.) and the village and church of Thanington (rt.). It then runs due S.E. in a wooded valley, underneath and to the N. of Barham Downs, along which the coach road travels. (L.) Howletts (G. Gipps), (rt.) Bifrons (Marquis of Conyngham).

65 BEKESBOURNE STATION overlooks the valley of the Little Stour, on the banks of which are the remains of the Archbishop's palace, purchased by Cranmer. The building was sacked by the Parliamentarians, who discovered his will behind the wainscot. Both Cranmer and Parker resided here, and it was the residence of the late Dr. Beke, the African traveller. The gatehouse is all that is left of the old mansion. In the church are the monument of Batterley, an antiquary, 1704, and effigy of Sir H. Palmer, 1611. L. is Patricxbourne (the tourist will notice the frequent termination of the word "bourne" to the villages), with a Norman church. At the E. end are three circular-headed windows surmounted by a rose light. The S. door is very good, and has a figure of

Christ in the tympanum. There is also some stained glass, probably Flemish. The whole church has been restored by *Sir G. G. Scott*.

68 ADISHAM STATION. Here is another interesting Early English church (restored 1870), originally given by King Eadbold to the Priory of Canterbury. The views from Adisham Downs over east Kent are very extensive. 1½ m. l. is Goodnestone (or Gunston) Park (Lord Fitzwalter) and church: a good brass in the latter. Farther on (l.) is Nonington church (Early English), with two bronzes of sixteenth century; and Fredville Park (C. J. Plumptre), remarkable for its fine oaks, of which one is 35 feet in girth. St. Alban's Court (W. O. Hammond).

72 SHEPHERDSWELL STATION (or Siebertswould). The tourist should retrace his steps for 1½ m. to Barfreton (or Barson) church, restored 1840, one of the most remarkable Norman churches in England. It is very small, the length being only 43 feet by 16 feet 8 inches (nave), and 13½ feet (choir), and the walls are 2 feet 9 inches thick. It has a fine S. door, Norman arches with mouldings, and a rose window resembling that of Patricbourne. It is built of Caen stone, probably by Hugh de Port, Constable of Dover, 1081. 2m. E. of Shepherdswell is Waldershare (Earl of Guildford), in a finely wooded park, but of no special interest as regards the house. There is a good view from the Belvedere. The church has several monuments to the Morris family (seventeenth century), the Hon. Susan Bertie and Sir H. Furnese, 1717. In early times Waldershare is believed to have been a Roman cemetery, and earthworks and a mound are to be seen at Coldred, between the park and the station. The railway now runs through a long tunnel, and descends a charming valley to

75 KEARSNEY STATION. Close by is the village and (restored) church of Ewell, celebrated historically for the meeting between King John and Pandulph, the Legate, 1213, when the former resigned his crown. A little lower down the valley is River, fast becoming a favourite residence with the Dover people. The Dour, which rises near here (Celtic, Dwr, water), gives motive power to several mills, both here and lower down at Buckland. There are picturesque grounds attached to Kearsney Abbey (Lyon Barrington), at the junction of the pretty Alkham valley. At Charlton the line again burrows under the chalk cliffs, emerging at

77 PRIORY STATION. The terminus is reached at

78 DOVER STATION. (*Refreshm. rooms. The mail trains convey passengers to and from the Admiralty pier for the steamers to Calais and Ostend, also the Custulia. Dover is described at p. 20. Hotels: Lord Warden, King's Arms, Dover Castle, Shakespeare, Harp, Antwerp.*)

The turnpike road from Canterbury to Dover contains several points of interest which cannot well be reached by rail, the road keeping the high ground over Barham Down. 3m. Bridge church (l.) is Norman and Early English, with aisles and transept, and contains the effigy of a man in long robes, and above it some curious wall carvings, together with other monuments of the seventeenth century. Near the village are Bridge Place (Walter Gipps), Higham, and Bourne Place (M. Bell). Bishopsbourne (rt. some little distance from the road) is celebrated for having been the rectory held by the judicious Hooker, 1595, whose monument and bust are in the chancel. The rectory house, where he wrote his 'Ecclesiastical Polity,' is considerably modernised since his day. The church (Perpendicular) has a good E. window with armorial bearings. Barham Down, an elevated, breezy open of some 4m. long, has many associations. An army was assembled here by King John to resist Philip Augustus' threatened invasion of England; and again by Simon de Montfort, to oppose Queen Eleanor's landing. A camp of observation was also formed here during the period of Napoleon's camp at Boulogne. All county elections are also held on the Down. The church (Decorated) contains some fine monuments to the Dinwell family, and in the churchyard to the Lades (James I.). In the parish are Barham Court (G. Dering) and Broom Park (T. Oliverson), the seat of the Oxenden family. Farther on are the churches of Denton (Denton Court, W. H. Willats) and Wootton, the former with monuments to John Boys, 1543; Sir A. Percival, 1641; and others. Near it is Tappington Court, made classical in the 'Ingoldsby Legends' by the murder committed by Sir Giles Tappington. Wootton Court (J. Brydges). At Lydden, where a small stream rises that flows into the sea near Shakespeare's Cliff, the road rejoins and runs parallel with the railway.

Railway Excursions.

III. LONDON TO MARGATE, BROADSTAIRS, AND RAMSGATE (L.C.D.R.).

(Distance to Ramsgate, 79m. Time, 2h. 35min. Fares: 15s., 10s. 6d., 6s. 5d. During the summer special fast trains run. Fares: 10s., 5s. For journey between London and Faversham, see p. 24. At Faversham is the junction with the main line to Canterbury and Dover. Refreshm. rooms.) The line to Margate runs due E. along the coast, with (l.) view of the East Swale and Sheppey island, (rt.) the village of Goodnestone (Godwin's town), (l.) Graveney, the church of which has brasses to Chief Baron Sir J. Martin, 1346, and T. Buxeys, with monument to R. de Faversham. In the distance (rt.) are the wooded hills in the neighbourhood of Blean forest, and (rt.) the ruined church of Seasalter.

58½ WHITSTABLE STATION (Fares: 15s., 10s. 6d., 5s. 4d. Pop. 5481. Also a station on S.E.R.) is a straggling little seaport, the population divided between seafaring and oyster fishing. The oysters of Whitstable are the most delicate in the market, and the interests of the fishery are so important that they are regulated by an annual court. One grower alone sends 50,000 bushels a year to London from this district. The church has a good embattled tower, and brasses for T. Bird and Joan Meadman (fifteenth century). Some little distance off shore is a bank or causeway, dry at low water, and called the Street, popularly supposed to have been the site of a large town in the Roman era. The S.E.R. is crossed here, and Swalecliffe church passed on l.

62½ HERNE BAY STATION. (Hotels: Dolphin, Pier. Omnibus to Canterbury.) A somewhat melancholy watering-place, which has never been a success, although there is no reason why this should be so, as it is healthy, the air delightful, and the country at the back very pretty. There is a pier, 3640 feet long, a promenade of 1m. long, and a handsome clock tower, built at a cost of 4000l. Herne village is 2m. inland. The church has brasses to John Darley, a former vicar, Peter Halle, Lady Fineaux, and Christiana Philip, all of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Bishop Ridley, the martyr, was vicar of Herne, 1538-49. Strode house (G. W. Prescott). It is a pretty walk

across Herne Common to Sturry, 4m: (*station S.E.R.*), or through East Blean wood to Hoath church, which has two brasses, one of which is for Anthony Maycot, 1535, his wife, two sons, and five daughters. The Archbishop of Canterbury had a country house at Ford, in the parish of Hoath. The most interesting excursion from Herne Bay is to Reculver (3m. E.) along the cliffs, passing the coastguard station at Bishopstone. Reculver was the ancient Regulbium, mentioned in the Itinerary of Antoninus as being garrisoned by the 1st cohort of the Brabantois Belgians. After the Roman era it was called Raculf-ceastre by the Saxons, and was occupied by Ethelbert as a palace. He is said to have been buried here; but this is not so, as he lies in St. Augustine's, Canterbury. A monastery and church were built by Bassa, a priest, and afterwards came into the possession of the Canterbury monks; but the church was unfortunately pulled down in 1809. It was the more to be regretted, as it contained portions of Roman work. The Roman remains at present existing at Reculver are those of the Castrum, of which the ruined S. and E. walls are left. The entrance was in the W. wall, and the space enclosed was about 8 acres. The two picturesque towers, which form so conspicuous a land and seamark, are called "the Sisters," and are in reality modern, built by the Trinity Board in place of two erected (traditionally) by an Abbess of Faversham, who was wrecked here with her sister on their way to Broadstairs. The sea is fast gaining, notwithstanding the protection of a large seawall of piles. The Wantsum channel flows in here, joining the Stour on the S., and completing on the E. the waterway by which Thanet is made an island. The village of Reculver is about 1½m. inland, near the railway, and if wished, the tourist can reach the S.E.R. at Grove Ferry station, about 4m. S.

70½ BIRCHINGTON STATION. The church (rt.) has some interesting brasses (fifteenth and sixteenth centuries) to the families of Queke and Crispe. One of the latter represents a mother and child with a baptismal cloth upon it. Farther inland are the towers in the park of Quex (H. P. Cotton), formerly the seat of the Queke or Quex family, and afterwards of that of Crispe. In 1657 one of the Crispes was forcibly carried away from Quex to Bruges by a Royalist named Golding, and there detained until he

paid a large ransom. One of the towers has a remarkably sweet peal of bells.

72 WESTGATE-ON-SEA STATION. (*Hotel: Beach House.*) An extension of Margate westwards, but more quiet and pleasant. The chalk cliffs are higher and more abrupt than they are at Reculver. Rt. is Dandelion, the ancient dwelling of the family of Dent-de-Lyon. It has a picturesque gateway of alternate brick and flint, with the arms of the family (*temp. Edward III.*). It is a favourite excursion from Margate.

74 MARGATE STATION. (*Refreshm. rooms. Fares: 15s., 10s. 6d., 6s. 5d. There is also a station S.E.R. Pop. 11,995. Hotels: York, White Hart, Elephant, Cliftonville. Steamers to London and Ramsgate daily. Coach in summer to Ramsgate and Canterbury. Distances: Ramsgate, 5m.; Minster, 5½m.; North Foreland, 3m.; St. Peter's, 2½m.; Broadstairs, 3m.; Salmston, 1m.; Birchington, 3½m.*) Margate, the paradise of cockney holiday makers, is, out of the season, as pleasant a watering-place for health purposes as any in England; but in the season it is crowded and noisy. Fast specials run daily on each railway, and pour thousands into the town, which certainly has great attractions in its good sands, bathing, and splendidly bracing air. Westwards, modern Margate has extended almost to Birchington, and eastwards to the suburb of Cliftonville, until there is a succession of houses for nearly 3m. Even in the old days of the Margate hoys, Londoners thronged the place, although two and sometimes three days were consumed in the journey, whereas now it is made in as many hours. The town is mainly dependent on visitors, and has but little interest, save the ordinary watering-place amusements. Close by the two stations is the Hall-by-the-Sea, where daily concerts of the usual music-hall calibre are given. An aquarium and skating rink are about to be established. Margate is well placed on rising ground, the churches of St. John and Trinity occupying conspicuous positions. The former (Norman date) has three aisles, and contains an unusual number of brasses, principally of the fifteenth century, and amongst them one of Sir John Dandelyon, 1445, who presented one of the five bells of the church. It bears an inscription that "John de Dandelyon, with his great dog, Brought over this bell on a mill cog." Trinity church is modern, but has a good tower 136 feet high. Enclosing the harbour is the pier, built by Rennie,

and terminated by a lighthouse. The jetty (1240 feet) is the great promenade of Margate, and a tramway runs along it, for the service of the steamboats which take up or land passengers at the end. Amongst the few industries of Margate is the singular one of making solid beer. The environs of Margate are more interesting than the town itself.

Excursions :

- a. Westgate, 2m.; Dandelion, 2m.; and Birchington, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m.
- b. Tivoli Gardens and Salmston Grange, 1m., a picturesque old farmhouse with ivy-covered remains, of Edward III.'s time. These consist of the hall, chapel, a building called the infirmary, and a small crypt. Salmston was one of the granges belonging to St. Augustine's monastery, Canterbury. On the opposite hill is the Drapers' hospital, founded 1709 by a Quaker.
- c. Kingsgate, 3m. E., on the coast, where Charles II. and James Duke of York landed, 1683. A mansion was built close to the cliffs by Lord Holland, 1760, together with a convent, now a private house, and a "castle" by Harley, Lord Mayor of London. The latter now serves as an excellent landmark for ships. The whole of this portion of the coast is being rapidly destroyed by the sea. A short distance S. is the North Foreland, the Promontorium Acanthium of the Romans, off which an engagement occurred in 1666 between the English fleet and that of the Dutch under De Ruyter or De Witt, in which the latter were victorious. Here is the North Foreland lighthouse, built 1683. The light is visible for 30m., and has all the latest improvements—a strong contrast to the time when there was an open iron grate fed with coals, at which the light keepers had to blow with bellows through the night. Hackendown Point is said to be the locality of a great battle between the Danes and the Saxons.
- d. St. Peter's and Broadstairs (*post*).
- e. By Quex and Acol to Minster, $5\frac{1}{2}$ m. (p. 83).

77 BROADSTAIRS STATION. (*Pop.* 1378; *Hotels: Ballard's, Albion.*) A pretty and quiet little watering-place with sands guarded by precipitous chalk cliffs, and with an unrivalled sea view. It has a picturesque little pier. The name of the place is derived from the breadth of the sea-gate or "stair," which was defended by a gate and archway (a few portions still remain). There was also a chapel of such reputation, that passing ships used to lower their topsails in its honour. The church is modern. 1m. inland is St. Peter's village and church (Perpendicular). It has three aisles, a noble flint tower, and some brasses. The churchyard contains several tombs of more than usual interest, including that of Richard Joy, who could lift a weight of 2200 lb. St. Peter's is one of the pleasantest residential spots in the Isle of Thanet. Here is Stone House, the residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and in the village is Mrs. Tait's Orphanage and Convalescent Home, a pretty building, by Seddon. From Broadstairs a long tunnel leads to

79 RAMSGATE TERMINUS. (*Refreshm. rooms. Pop.* 14,640. *Hotels: The Granville, Albion, Royal. There is also a station, S.E.R. Steamers to Margate and London. Coach to Canterbury in the summer. Distances: Margate, 5m.; Sandwich, 6m.; Broadstairs, 2m.; St. Peter's, 2½m.; St. Lawrence, 1m.; Minster, 5½m.; Pegwell Bay, 1½m.*) Ramsgate, though decidedly more aristocratic than Margate, is just as crowded and excursion-haunted. It is a favourite resort of the trading classes, and during the whole year is much frequented as a residence. The character of the climate is different to that of Margate, the former facing S. and being warm and sunny, while the latter looks to the N. and is far more bracing. As a port, Ramsgate holds a rather high place, and its pier, built by Smeaton (the Eddystone architect) in 1792 was one of the great works of the day. The two arms extend 3000 feet, and enclose a space of 42 acres, and this, together with its proximity to the Goodwin Sands, makes Ramsgate invaluable as a harbour of refuge. On the W. pier is a lighthouse, and near the E. pier is an obelisk to commemorate the embarkation of George IV. to and from Hanover. The buildings of Ramsgate worth notice are the large Granville Hotel, St. George's church, and the Roman Catholic church of St. Augustine, erected by the two *Pugins* (elder and younger), and considered by many to be their finest work. St.

Benedict's monastery and college were also designed by the latter; and he himself lived in a house of corresponding style close to the church. The great attractions during the season are the Ramsgate sands, which extend for several miles, fine and smooth, to beyond Pegwell Bay. Frith's picture of "Life at the Seaside" is intended to represent these sands, which for their gaiety, humour, and rollicking life are most characteristic. Pegwell Bay is a famous locality for shrimps and picnics, although it has some associations of far greater interest, viz. the landing of Hengist and Horsa (traditional), and that of St. Augustine (historical), at a spot called Ebbsfleet, now some little distance inland, but then a promontory between the bay and the mouth of the Stour. At St. Lawrence (station *S.E.R.*) are a Benedictine abbey for nuns, erected 1873, and a synagogue, mausoleum, and college for Jews, built by Sir Moses Montefiore. An antiquarian ramble may be made to Osengall Hill, a little beyond St. Lawrence (a fine view), where was a cemetery of the very early Saxon settlers. A number of the graves were opened by the late Mr. Rolfe, an antiquary of Sandwich, who found many of the inmates interred after the Saxon, and some after the Roman fashion. The *S.E.R.* cuts right through this hill. 2m. farther inland is Manston Court, a picturesque old farmhouse, once the residence of the Manston family, which was settled here from the time of John. North of Ramsgate there is a pleasant walk along the cliffs to Broadstairs, passing Eastcliffe (Sir Moses Montefiore).

Railway Excursions.

IV. LONDON TO SHEERNESS, AND THE ISLAND OF SHEPPEY.

Though of no great size (about 30m. in circumference), the island of Sheppey contains a good deal of interesting material—of pretty scenery there is none—the land rising gradually from the monotonous mud-banks of the S. shore towards the centre, the cliffs on the N. being never more than 80 or 100 feet high. Its boundaries are the Medway estuary on the W., the Swale on the S., and the open sea on the N. As the cliffs are of soft London clay, there is a constant washing away, so much so, that

Minster church is said to have been in the middle of the island half a century ago, whereas it is now only half a mile from the shore. The geologist will find more interest in Sheppey than most people, for the whole island is one extinct garden of fossil vegetation of Eocene age. It consists principally of leaves and fruit allied to the screw pine (*Pandanus*), and palms, like the *Nipæ* of the Philippine islands, and of these large quantities may be found by searching at the foot of the cliffs; but the specimens are so incrustated with pyrites, that they require the utmost care to disinter them, as well as to preserve them afterwards, the effect of the atmosphere being to cause disintegration. The best places along the coast for search are Warden Point and Hensbrook, between Minster and Warden. The southern border (that of the Swale) is intersected by numerous salt-water ditches or "fleets," which run far up into the interior, bringing the means of water carriage close to the farmyard. Fishing and farming are the principal occupations, the latter carried on with great vigour and at considerable cost, and many of the large farms occupy the site of, or are incorporated with, old mansions of some pretensions. The antiquary will find a good number of barrows, many of them 10 feet high, called "cotterels" locally, and supposed to be the burial places of the early Norsemen. There is only one town in Sheppey, viz. Sheerness, and seven parishes, some, such as Harty and Elmley, being islands in themselves through the action of the salt-water creeks. Whichever way the visitor approaches Sheppey, (a) by rail from Sittingbourne, (b) steamer from Chatham, or (c) from London or Gravesend, Sheerness is the first point to make for.

a. *By rail.* From the station at Sittingbourne (p. 36) the line turns due N., crossing Milton creek and passing (rt.) the village of Milton—"the king's town of Milton," as it was called, from having once been a royal residence. The church, as is not uncommon in this district, contains Roman bricks in its walls, with brasses of the fifteenth century, and Flemish tiles. Sexburga, the Prioress of Minster, is traditionally said to have died within the church porch, 680. Near the creek below is the earthwork of Castle Rough, supposed to be a fortress thrown up by the Danes. Passing (l.) the church of Iwade, the line crosses the Swale at Ferry Reach by a

girder bridge, which accommodates also foot and carriage passengers.

4½ QUEENBOROUGH STATION is the most important building in the decayed little town of Queenborough, although in former years it was noted for its castle, originally built by Edward III., and named after his queen, Philippa. It was frequently repaired, and was finally destroyed at the time of the Commonwealth. All that is left is the moat and a mound, on which is the old well, of considerable value in this brackish district. The L.C.D.R. run steamers from here to Flushing. The line terminates at

7 SHEERNESS STATION. (*Fares from London: 9s. 6d., 6s. 6d., 3s. 11d.* Pop. 13,956. *Hotels: Fountain (Blue Town), Wellington (Mile Town), Royal (Banks Town).* *Distances: Sittingbourne, 7m.; Queenborough, 2½m.; Minster, 3m.; Warden, 6½m.*) The three districts of Blue Town, Mile Town, and Banks Town, together with the suburb of Marina, form Sheerness, Marina being the residential or watering-place portion, and opposite the oyster beds. Sheerness is of the greatest importance in a military point of view, as it commands the mouth of the Medway (and thus bars the way to Chatham), and to a certain extent the passage of the Thames. The fortifications are very strong, so that there is but little chance of the repetition of the episode of 1667, when the Dutch fleet sailed up the river to Chatham. The dockyard is sixty acres in extent, and is always worth seeing, from the large number of men-of-war stationed here or fitting out.

b. By steamer from Chatham pier, which is at the back of the Sun Hotel. At the end of Chatham Reach (l.) is Upnor Castle, erected 1561 as a defence for the dockyard. This was the farthest point reached by the Dutch, when they burnt the English vessels. There is another fort at Gillingham, where the Brompton "lines" run down to the river. (L.) Hoo Marsh, a miserable aguish district. The spire of Hoo church is seen inland. (L.) Pinhope Point, on which there is another fort. At the end of the Long Reach (rt.) is Otterham creek, the entrance to Upchurch Marshes, where the Roman pottery is found (p. 35). Farther on (rt.) is Stangate creek, used for quarantine. Then succeeds the entrance of the West Swale, and finally Sheerness, opposite which (l.) is the Isle of Grain.

3m. E. of Sheerness is MINSTER (a fine walk along the cliffs). Here was a nunnery, founded in the seventh century by Sexburga, which was destroyed by the Danes and restored by Archbishop Carboil. The only remains to be seen are the gatehouse, incorporated with a modern dwelling. The church (Norman) is a landmark for the whole district, being on the highest ground in Sheppey. It contains the tombs of Sir T. Cheney, to whom the nunnery was given, and of Sir Robert Shurland, who is represented as swimming on horseback, which probably referred to his being Lord of the Manor and possessor of all waifs and strays on the shore, as far as he could swim out on horseback. But for the local legend of the bad Sir Robert, the reader should refer to the admirable story in the 'Ingoldsby Legends.' Next to Minster (inland 2m.) is Eastchurch (an interesting Perpendicular church). It formerly belonged to the Abbey of Boxley, near Maidstone, and contains the effigies of G. Livesay and wife (seventeenth century), the parents of Sir Michael Livesay, the regicide. Outside the village is Shurland house (Mrs. Pratt), once the mansion of Sir Robert Shurland. This house, originally built by Sir T. Cheney, was a very fine one, as is evident from the part of the gatehouse and quadrangle that still remain. On the coast (N.E.) is Warden church, which will soon be numbered amongst the things of the past, so rapidly is the sea washing the coast away. It was rebuilt with the stones of old London Bridge. Farther S. is the parish and church of Leysdown. To the S. at the mouth of the Swale is Shellness Point, where James II. was captured while endeavouring to escape to France. On the opposite side of the estuary is Whitstable. Harty is separated from Leysdown by Cable creek, and forms an island of itself. The church is poor, but contains a curious oak chest. From hence the tourist can cross by ferry to Oare (*fare 4d.*), and thence to Faversham (p. 37).

Railway Excursions.

V. LONDON TO DARTFORD, GRAVESEND, STROOD, AND MAIDSTONE, NORTH KENT RAILWAY (Loop Line).

The traveller leaves London by S.E.R. from CHARING CROSS, CANNON STREET, or LONDON BRIDGE STATIONS, and passes NEW CROSS and ST. JOHN'S STATIONS, as in Excursion I. The loop line, which is 3m. shorter than that by Woolwich, leaves the main line to Tunbridge (rt.), and proceeds due E. to

7 LEE AND BURNT ASH STATION. The village of Lee, with its four district churches, is on l., and is continuous with Lewisham and Blackheath. Of the old parish church only the tower is left. In the churchyard is buried Halley, the astronomer royal, died 1741. Here is a handsome block of buildings for the Merchant Taylors' almshouses.

8 ELTHAM STATION. The country here begins to be very wooded and pretty. An object of great interest is the old palace, which lies between the railway and the village. The remains are encircled by a moat, crossed on the N. side by a three-arched bridge. They are all of the date of Edward IV., and consist of the great hall, 100 feet long, which has a splendid oak roof, music gallery, two Decorated bays and five double windows on each side. Very curious drains or tunnels exist underneath the palace, which were probably used as a means of escape in time of danger, or as good places whence to discharge arrows upon the enemy. The "buttery" is now a private residence. In its palmy days, there were also seventy-four rooms and a chapel. Eltham palace was a royal residence from the time of Henry III. to that of Henry VIII., the architect being Anthony Beke, Bishop of Durham. Edward II.'s son, styled John of Eltham, was born here, and from that circumstance the palace is sometimes called "King John's Barn." In this building Edward III. held several parliaments; and the last royal personage who lived here was Queen Elizabeth, who, when a baby, was frequently brought over for change of air. The hall has had many escapes of being utterly destroyed, and George IV. proposed to take away the roof to St. George's chapel at Windsor; but the

timbers were too rotten to allow of this being done. It has of late years been put into a state of repair. Eltham church was rebuilt 1874, and Holy Trinity church in 1869, by *Street*. In the parish churchyard are buried Horne, the commentator, Bishop of Norwich, 1792; Doggett, the comedian, founder of the "Coat and Badge" race for London watermen; and Sir William James, 1783, the victor of the battle of Severndroog. Vandyck, and Sherard the botanist, were also at different times residents at Eltham. In this parish is Middle Park, where was the celebrated training stable of Mr. Blenkiron. To Woolwich, past Severndroog, and over Shooter's Hill, it is a short 4m.

10½ SIDCUP STATION. (L.) the Hollies (F. M. Lewin), and Lamb Abbey, or Lamorbey (J. Malcolm); (rt.) between Sidcup and Footscray is Ursula Lodge, an asylum for six maiden ladies above the age of forty-five. Near Sidcup is Frognal, an old red brick mansion, once belonging to Sir Philip Warwick, and now the seat of Earl Sidney, the Lord-Lieutenant of Kent.

12½ BEXLEY STATION. The church (Early English) has a brass and monument to Sir J. Champneys and wife, 1556. Camden the antiquary, who lived at Chislehurst, bought the manor of Bexley, and with the revenue founded the Camden Professorship of History at Oxford. Near Bexley Heath (l.) is Danson Park (A. W. Bean), the grounds of which were laid out by "Capability" Brown. The railway crosses the Cray river to

14 CRAYFORD STATION. In the Cray valley a good deal of industry is carried on in calico printing, saw and paper mills. The geologist will be interested in the chalk excavations, which at the bottom expand into large vaults, and resemble those at Purfleet and Tilbury. A battle is said to have been fought in this district between Hengist and the Britons, and these caves may have been used as places of concealment, although the original object, no doubt, was to obtain the chalk. The church contains a monument to the wife of Sir Cloudesley Shovel, who presented the altar-piece. By following up the valley of the Cray (rt.) some pretty scenery will be met with, and some tolerably interesting churches, such as Footscray, Paul's Cray, St. Mary Cray, and Orpington (p. 11). The railway soon joins (l.) the main line *viâ* Woolwich and Erith.

16 DARTFORD STATION. (*Junction with main line. Fares: 3s., 2s. 6d., 1s. 6d. Pop. 8298. Inns: Bull, Victoria.*) This busy little town occupies the bottom and slopes of the somewhat steep valley of the Darent, which, running from the S. near Westerham, flows into the Thames at Dartford creek, some 2m. from the town, after receiving the Cray. For centuries Dartford has been of some commercial importance, owing to the establishment, in the latter part of the sixteenth century, of paper mills by Sir John Spielman, jeweller to Queen Elizabeth. This was the first paper mill ever started in England, and the trade has since thriven in Kent. Later on, large powder mills were erected to the S. of the town, which have acquired great reputation. The historical event of the place is the insurrection of Wat Tyler (*temp. Richard II.*), who commenced operations by killing the poll-tax collector here. The church is supposed to have had its tower built by Gundulf, Bishop of Rochester. It has a good Decorated screen, a monument to Sir J. Spielman (the papermaker) and wife, with brasses to R. Martyn and wife, 1402; Captain Bostocke, wife, and six children, 1612; T. Rothele, 1464, wife, and four children; and William Death, 1590, two wives, ten sons, and six daughters. The church was restored 1863, and a west porch added 1869. The Priory, founded by Edward III., for Augustinian nuns, was a fashionable place of retirement in those days, and was afterwards turned into a residence for Anne of Cleves by Henry VIII. It is now called The Place, but the remains consist only of a gatehouse and south wing, used as a farmhouse. In the cemetery, to the E. of the town, where formerly stood a chantry of St. Edmund, in great repute with pilgrims, is a monument to the martyrs burnt by Queen Mary at Dartford Brent (three quarters of a mile on the Watling Street). Trevethick, one of the earliest practical inventors of the steam engine, died at Dartford. Dartford Heath, between the town and Bexley, is a breezy, pleasant common, with a number of those curious chalk excavations so noticeable at Crayford. 1½m. S. is the pretty village of Wilmington, embowered in cherry orchards, which are very valuable in this part of the county. The manor was once the residence of Warwick the king-maker. The botanist will find several varieties of the orchis in the neighbourhood of the heath. A little before reaching Greenhithe is (rt.), only not visible from

the railway, the very interesting church of Stone (Early English), restored by *Street*, and consisting of chancel, nave, aisles, and west tower, with a chapel, called the Wilshyre chantry. The latter, however, is of later date, and contains the tomb of Sir John Wilshyre, 1546, who entertained Cardinal Wolsey when on his journey to France. The N. door is of very beautiful detail, of apparently earlier date than the rest of the church, and the chancel has a wall arcade, considered by Mr. Street to be one of the finest pieces of sculpture in the kingdom. In the chancel are two brasses, to J. Lambarde and John Sorewell (fifteenth century). From the similarity of style it is believed that the architects of Westminster Abbey and of Stone were one and the same. At Stone are the City of London Lunatic Asylum and the County of Kent Penitentiary. Passing through a series of cuttings in the chalk the railway reaches

18½ GREENHITHE STATION. (*Steamers call at the pier from London and Gravesend.*) The village is mainly dependent on its chalk quarries, which are numerous and valuable. A ferry crosses the river to West Thurrock, on the Essex side. The 'Arethusa' and 'Chichester' training ships are moored alongside of the Kent shore. This little port has some association with Arctic voyages, as Sir John Franklin sailed from here on his last expedition, 1845. Near Greenhithe is Ingress Abbey (S. C. Umfreville).

20½ NORTHFLEET STATION. (*Pop. 4130. Hotel: India Arms.*) Here also are very extensive chalk quarries, which have been utilised to make a dock capacious enough to hold eight or ten tolerably large vessels. The tower of the church was formerly built so as to be a defence to the town, on account of its being so open to attack by unscrupulous visitors to the Thames. It contains a rood-screen of the fourteenth century, engraved in Bloxam's 'Architecture;' and some brasses—to Peter de Lacy, 1375; William Lye, 1391; and Thomas Brats, 1511, and wife; and in the churchyard is a monument to a Mr. Huggins, with relievos of the Huggins College for decayed tradesmen, which is a conspicuous object in Northfleet. Nearly 1m. inland is Swanscombe, believed to be the locality where William the Conqueror met the army of Kentishmen, headed by Archbishop Stigand, and confirmed their rights and privileges. The church (Trans-Norman) has early Saxon work in part of its walls and tower, almost the

only example of the kind in the county. It contains the monuments of the Weldon family, sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Sir Anthony Weldon, clerk of the kitchen to James I., is said to have been the prototype of Sir Mungo Malgrowther, in the 'Fortunes of Nigel.'

22½ GRAVESEND STATION. (*Fares: 3s. 6d., 2s. 8d., 2s. 2d. Ferry to G.E.R. at Tilbury. Steamers to London and Margate. Pop. 27,493. Hotels: Clarendon, Talbot, Clifton. Distances: Northfleet, 2m.; Rosherville, 1½m.; Higham, 4½m.; Cobham, 4m.; Rochester, 8m.; Stone, 4½m.*) Though Gravesend is such a favourite resort of the true Cockney, it is singularly barren of interest. It consists of a range of streets along the waterside, crossed at intervals by others that run up towards Windmill Hill. It possesses a couple of piers (the Town Pier and the Royal Terrace Pier), baths, a townhall, and an unprepossessing parish church. The great attraction of Gravesend is the river, which is always changing and full of life. This being the boundary of the port of London, emigrant and other ships take pilots in, as well as their final passengers, and the number of vessels and steamers passing up and down with each tide is very large. In early days Gravesend was even a more important starting point, for Cabot and Frobisher both set sail from here on their voyage of discovery; and up to the present time it has been in favour with royalty for landing and embarking. Between Gravesend and Northfleet are the Rosherville Gardens, "the place to spend a happy day," which are far prettier than the ordinary run of suburban gardens. Great ingenuity has been shown in utilising the worked out chalk quarries. Rosherville obtains its name from Mr. Rosher, the original proprietor, whose descendants have built a very pretty church, with a profusion of carving. There is also a pleasant walk to Springhead watercress beds. Three-quarters of a mile E. of Gravesend is Milton church (Decorated), built, together with a chantry, of which there are a few remains, by Aymer de Valence, 1322. There are large barracks here, and a shooting ground with rifle butts on the roadside to Higham. 2m. farther on the Rochester road is Chalk church, which once belonged to the Benedictine Priory of Norwich. Over the door are sculptured some humorous figures, one holding a jug, a morris-dancer, &c.

Excursions :

- a. Rosherville Gardens, 1½m. ; Northfleet, 2m. ; Stone Church, 4½m. ; and Greenhithe, 4m.
- b. Shorne Church and Cobham Hall, 4m. (p. 27).
- c. Tilbury Fort and Grays Thurrock on the Essex side.
- d. Chalk Church, 2½m. ; Higham, 4½m. ; and Cowling.

The railway to Strood keeps along the flat, by the side of the old Thames and Medway canal, on the other side of which are the shooting butts.

27 HIGHAM STATION. The church (1m. l.) occupies the site of a Benedictine nunnery, founded by Stephen, and presided over by his daughter. A few remains of this establishment are visible in an adjoining farmhouse. The church has two brasses. Traces of a causeway are evident between Higham and the river, across which an ancient ferry communicated with Essex. Higham is the nearest station whence to visit several churches in the outlying district, bounded on the N. by the Thames, and E. by the Medway. Only a determined ecclesiologist will investigate this district, for it is ugly and dreary, save for distant river views. Cliffe and Cowling are best reached from Higham; High Halstow, Hoo St. Mary, Allhallows, and Stoke, from Strood. Cliffe church (3m. from the station) overlooks the marshes from a ridge of chalk, and is supposed to be the place where the Saxon church held its councils. It has brasses to the Faunce family (seventeenth century), and some miserere stalls. 1½m. E. is Cowling or Cooling, which, besides the church, (a brass) has an interesting manor house or castle, built by Sir John de Cobham (*temp.* Richard III.). Sir John Oldcastle, the head of the Lollard party, was living at Cowling when he was summoned to answer the charge of heresy, but the apparitor was refused admission. The moat and gatehouse are in good preservation; the latter has two round flanking towers, with an inscription and Sir John de Cobham's arms.

Passing through a long tunnel in the chalk, the railway reaches

30 STROOD AND ROCHESTER STATION (*described at p. 28*), and immediately under the L.C.D.R., to follow closely the left bank of the Medway. Very fine views are ob-

tained of the new swing bridge, and Rochester Castle on the opposite shore, with the tower of the cathedral behind.

32 CUXTON STATION, at the entrance of the valley between the two chalk ranges, through which the Medway flows. Higher up, this valley is utilised for chalk quarrying and lime burning to such an extent, that it has almost the appearance of a northern manufacturing district. Cuxton church has an altar-tomb and brass to a former rector, John Bultyll, 1568, chaplain to Edward VI. while he was Prince Edward. Nearly opposite (on rt. bank of the river), is Starkey's, the old residence of the family of that name (*temp.* Henry VI.), which has some architectural features of that date. Farther up the river (same side) is Wouldham church, of the same age. Both it and Starkey's can be reached from Rochester, or by crossing the river at Snodland to Burham. Lower Halling, between the railway and river, was formerly a property of the bishops of Rochester, one of whom built a palace here, 1185, of which a few walls are left. One of them, Bishop Hamo de Hatto, successfully cultivated a vineyard here. The church has two brasses. There is also a picturesque Elizabethan house at Langridge, among the woods to the rt.

35½ SNODLAND STATION. The church (between the rail and river) is Early English, and has some fifteenth century brasses, and an interesting modern stained glass window, with full length figures of the four martyrs, Cranmer, Ridley, Latimer, and Ann Askew. Hoborough Hill is worth ascending, not only for the magnificent view of the Medway valley, but because it was an early British camp, near which a large barrow was opened, and found to contain Roman remains. The owner of these probably lived at the Roman villa, of which traces were discovered in a field close to Snodland church. On the opposite bank of the river is Burham church, which once belonged to the Knights of St. John, and has some stained glass. An immense quantity of chalk is quarried here, and a pall of smoke hangs over the valley from the lime works, which supply the London building trade with a large proportion of the lime used there. In one of the quarries Dr. Mantell discovered some of the most interesting and rarest chalk fossils with which we are acquainted, including the fossil turtle (*Cheloniu Benstedii*).

The Medway becomes very much narrower, and the character of the scenery much improved, at

37½ AYLESFORD STATION. The little town of Aylesford (Saxon, Eglesford) is ½m. distant, on the opposite bank of the river, which is crossed by a particularly narrow though picturesque bridge. Eglesford is probably identical with the Welsh *Eglwys*- (church) ford, and is thought by some antiquaries to be the spot where a great battle was fought between Hengist and Vortigern. The church is charmingly placed on a high bank, overlooking the red roofs of the principal street. It is Norman, and contains monuments to the Colepeppers of Preston Hall (eighteenth century), Sir Peter and Sir Paul Rycaut, of the Friary (the latter a celebrated traveller), and Sir John Banks and wife, 1699. In the High Street is John Sedley's hospital, a small almshouse founded in the reign of James I., and since rebuilt. The Friary (Dowager Countess of Aylesford), now incorporated with a modern residence, is said to have been the earliest foundation for Carmelites in the kingdom, though this honour is also claimed for Losenham, near Newenden. At all events, the first chapter of the order was held here, 1245. After the Dissolution, it was given to Sir T. Wyatt, and on his estate being attainted, to John Sedley, who (*temp.* Charles I.) sold it to Sir P. Rycaut. Sir Charles Sedley, the famous wit and gallant, was born here; and Sir John Banks also resided here in the seventeenth century, and did his best to spoil the old building. On the l. bank of the river, near the bridge, is Preston Hall (H. Brassey, M.P.), a fine modern Tudor mansion, on the site of the old house of the Colepeppers. Aylesford is the best place from which to make an excursion to the cromlech of Kits Coity house, which lies on the hillside under the road from Rochester to Maidstone, about 1½m. N.E., and near the Bell Inn. The cromlech consists of three upright blocks of sandstone, and a covering stone to form the chamber. The side stones measure about 8 feet, and the covering stone 12 feet. The peculiar name is derived from the Celtic *Kêd*, *Coity*, or *Coed* (Welsh), and means the tomb in the wood. It was evidently used for sepulchral purposes; and tradition connects the hero who was buried here with the battle fought at Aylesford between Hengist and Vortigern. But Kits Coity house is not the only relic

of the kind in the neighbourhood; for in the field below is a group of stones called the Countless Stones; and on the hill above are openings in the chalk, which were evidently intended for sepulchral chambers. Again, between this locality and the parish of Addington (on the L.C.D.R.) (p. 97) is a regular line of stones, evidently connected with each other. The whole of the district appears to have been invested with a sacred character, and devoted to the purposes of a cemetery. The chalk hills above are also excavated, as if for interment, the excavations having been filled up with flints, and covered over with great slabs, just as they are in the sepulchral cromlechs met with in Brittany. Below Kits' Coity house, Mr. Wright the archæologist found remains of a Roman villa, with quantities of Samian ware, coins, and other articles. This is a most interesting district, and will well repay any trouble in exploring it. (*Fair quarters can be had at Aylesford, or at the Upper Bell, on the summit of the hill. The Lower Bell is no longer an inn.*)

Quitting Aylesford, the railway passes (1.) a large stoneware pottery and paper mill, and soon afterwards (1.) Allington church and castle. The latter stands within a bend of the river, which feeds the moat by which it is almost surrounded. In shape the castle is a parallelogram, with projecting towers, divided into two courts, on the N. of which, nearest the river, are the gateway, the hall, and the chapel. The inner court contained the keep, which is of earlier architecture than the remainder of the castle (Perpendicular). The adjoining farmhouse, built out of the ruins, is to the full as picturesque as the castle itself. Allington was originally a Saxon settlement, and after the Conquest passed through the families of De Warrene, Allington, De Penchester, Cobham, and Brent, to that of Wyatt. Sir Thomas Wyatt, the poet, was born here in 1503, and made it his special and favourite residence during Henry VIII.'s reign. Traces of the pleasure grounds and gardens which he created are still visible. His son took an active part in the rebellion against Queen Mary, for which he was tried and beheaded. The estate was confiscated, and given to Sir John Astley, who allowed the castle to fall into ruin. It now belongs to the Earl of Romney.

40½ MAIDSTONE BARRACKS STATION.

41½ MAIDSTONE STATION. (*Refreshm. Rooms. Fares: 8s., 5s. 6d., 3s. 3d. Also a station L.C.D.R. Pop. 26,237. Hotels: Mitre, Bell, Star. Omnibus to Charing, Ashford, Staplehurst, Cranbrook, Headcorn, Tenterden, Hadlow, Tunbridge Wells. Distances: Ashford, 18m.; Lenham, 10m.; Leeds, 5m.; Debting, 2½m.; Borley, 2½m.; Allington, 1½m.; Aylesford, 4m.; Kits Coity house, 4m.; Rochester, 8m.; West Malling, 5½m.; Barming, 2½m.; Mereworth, 6m.; Watlingtonbury, 4m.; West Farleigh, 3m.; Loose, 2½m.; Linton, 4m.; Hadlow, 9m.; Tunbridge, 12½m.; Sittingbourne, 11m.*) Maidstone is the county and assize town of Kent, and shows unmistakable evidences of prosperity and a good neighbourhood. Although a very ancient place (there was probably a Roman or Saxon settlement here), Maidstone has lived a quiet life, and has not many historical events to boast of. Sir Thomas Wyatt's rebellion is the principal incident, except, perhaps, the attack made upon it 1648 by Fairfax, when it was garrisoned by a royalist force, which surrendered after a desperate resistance. The parish church (All Saints, restored 1860) is a splendid Perpendicular example, and was the work of Archbishop Courtenay, fourteenth century, who also rebuilt the college hard by, and made this church collegiate. The chief points of interest about it are the richly-carved stalls belonging to the college, the beautiful chancel-screen, the sedilia, and the mural painting above the tomb of John Wootton, first master of the college, 1417. A slab in the middle of the chancel is traditionally said to cover the resting place of Archbishop Courtenay, the founder, but he was in reality buried at Canterbury. There are two brasses to the families of Beale and Beeston, and monuments to the Astleys and Knatchbulls (seventeenth century). Lord Rivers, the father of Elizabeth (Edward IV.'s queen), is also buried here, but the brass is gone. The college of All Saints adjoins the church, like it, overlooking the river. It was originally established by Archbishop Boniface, 1260, under the form of a hospitium. This building, called the Newark, was incorporated by Archbishop Courtenay with the college of secular priests which he had founded close to the church. It was suppressed, like other institutions of the kind, in Edward VI.'s reign. It has a fine gateway tower, with a lofty apartment in it above the archway, and from hence to the river bank runs a long range of building, capped at

the end by a second, though smaller tower. The master's house, which is to the S. of this range, has been a good deal altered by Lord Romney, the owner, and beyond it is another gateway opening out into the country. The building running down to the river (in part of which is the School of Art) was formerly occupied by the refectory and kitchen, with dormitories above. E. of the church is a remarkable range of barns, which probably belonged to the Archbishop's palace, lying to the N. of the church. The manor belonged to Canterbury since the reign of John, though the present building is of much later date (fourteenth century), and was erected by Archbishop Ufford. For more than one hundred years afterwards it was added to and adorned by successive prelates. The style is Perpendicular, though the E. front seems to have been remodelled in Elizabethan character. Edward VI. gave this palace to Sir Thomas Wyatt, of Allington, and on his attainder it came to Sir John Astley, and was alienated by that family to Lord Romney. It is now occupied by two residences. There is a charming river view from the churchyard, looking up the Medway towards Tovil, and from the opposite bank the visitor will get an excellent grouping of the church, palace, and hospital. The old chapel of the Newark hospital has been turned into a district church (St. Peter). There are, in addition to these two, five other churches in Maidstone. There are several old houses in the town, though Astley house, with its fine old carved front, has been pulled down. In St. Faith Street is Chillington house, now the Free Library and Museum. The latter, one of the best in England, was established in 1858, in the present mediæval house, which belonged to the Cobhams in the time of Edward III., and afterwards to the Maplesdens. In 1868 Mr. Pretty, the first curator, left large bequests to the museum, and subsequently the Brenchley collection and library were added. Both local and general collections are admirable, and the house itself is arranged after the fashion of the old mansion, including the ancient chapel. Surrounding the house is a prettily laid-out public garden. The other buildings in Maidstone are of modern date and uses, and consist of the cavalry barracks, which are on a large scale, the county gaol, and some extensive paper mills. There are many charming seats in the neighbourhood, which is one of great beauty.

Excursions :

- a. Allington Castle, 1½m., by river bank and across the ferry (p. 59).
- b. Malling Abbey, 5½m. (p. 98).
- c. Farleigh, 2m.; Wateringbury (p. 93); and Mere-worth, 6m. (p. 121).
- d. Addington, Aylesford, 4m., and Kits Coity house, 4m. (p. 58).
- e. Boxley Abbey and Debtling, 2½m. under the chalk ridge to the N.E. Follow the Maidstone road to a little past Sandlin, where a stream runs into the Medway opposite Allington. A path by this stream (rt.) leads to Boxley Abbey (R. J. Balston), once a Cistercian foundation of William of Ypres, 1136, and affiliated to the Abbey of Clairvaux, in France. It was celebrated for its possession of "the Rood of Grace," a crucifix by which miracles were performed, and much grist brought to the mill from the crowds of admiring pilgrims. There is, however, very little remaining of the ancient buildings, and what there is is incorporated with the modern house. Boxley church (nearly 1m. farther) has an interesting porch, of unusual size. The place has derived its name from the box trees which grow abundantly in this neighbourhood. Upon the same ridge of hill lies Debtling church, which has a remarkably fine lectern; and still farther is Thurnham, in the churchyard of which lies Mynn, the Kentish cricketer. On the hill above is a very old ruin, called Thurnham or Godard's Castle, supposed to have been built by a Saxon of that name. With the exception of some rude walling, it has little of interest, and was probably an outpost to command the valley and guard the path through the hills to Sittingbourne. Thurnham Court (Sir G. Hampson, Bart.). Penenden Heath, between Thurnham and Maidstone, is interesting from its associations, being, like Barham Downs, near Canterbury, the locality for great gatherings from time immemorial. Here the Saxons held their "gemotes," and at the present day county elec-

tions are carried on here, in a building called the county hall. Historically, it was the scene in 1076 of a great trial, when Archbishop Lanfranc sued Odo of Bayeux, Earl of Kent, for certain manors and lands which he had taken from Canterbury, in which suit he was successful.

Railway Excursions.

VI. LONDON TO DARTFORD, BY BLACKHEATH AND WOOLWICH (NORTH KENT RAILWAY).

GREENWICH (described at p. 102) is reached from London by several ways: (a) by steamboat; (b) tramway from Westminster or Blackfriars bridges; (c) by S.E.R. direct line, which is being extended to Woolwich; (d) by N.K.R., which diverges from the main line at St. John's station, and soon reaches

6 LEWISHAM STATION. (*Junction with Mid Kent to Beckenham and Croydon.*) A pleasant straggling village on the Ravensbourne, more or less continuous with Lee and Blackheath, and a favourite residence with Londoners. The parish church has monuments to Dr. Stanhope (a former vicar) and Mary Lushington, by *Flaxman*. There are nine other churches in the district, of which the best is St. Stephen's, by *Scott*. In old times the Abbey of St. Peter-at-Ghent had a cell here. There is an excellent grammar school, founded by the Rev. A. Corfe, 1657.

7 BLACKHEATH STATION, at the entrance to a long tunnel between this and Charlton. Ascending the hill on l., the visitor finds himself on Blackheath common, one of the most breezy and open spots close to London, and as a consequence largely built round by residences and detached villas. The history of Blackheath is identified with much of that of the City of London, and it will be sufficient to note briefly the various incidents in their order of succession. From the fact of the Watling Street crossing the common, and forming the main road, it is evident that it was a great highway in early days; and the discovery of Brito-Roman barrows is an additional proof. Then we have the encampment of masses of people during three successive rebellions, viz. Wat

Tyler, 1381; Jack Cade, 1450; and of the Cornishmen under Lord Audley, 1497; while in more peaceful times, the common was the usual rendezvous for the reception of illustrious visitors, such as Cardinal Campeius, the Pope's legate, 1519; Anne of Cleves, 1539; and Charles II., 1660. The heath is now under the control of the Board of Works. That it abounds in schools is evident by a visit to the common on a Saturday afternoon, when the number of cricketers make it a difficulty to cross, except by keeping to the roads. The northern boundary is marked by the wall of Greenwich Park, through which the visitor can make his way to the river side. At a place called the Point is a singular chalk cavern of four chambers, connected by passages, and probably of the same age and uses as those at Dartford, Crayford, and other places in the county. On the hill over the railway tunnel is Morden College, a handsome quadrangular brick building, founded by Sir John Morden, an Aleppo merchant, 1595, for decayed Turkey merchants. The college now contains forty pensioners. The statues of Sir John and wife are over the entrance, and their portraits in the hall, they themselves being buried in the chapel. The road behind the college leads to Eltham (p. 51), about 1½m.

9 CHARLTON STATION. The village is on rt. The church is ugly, but contains some interesting monuments, including those of Sir Adam Newton and wife, the Right Hon. Spencer Perceval, and Mr. Drummond (the two last having both been assassinated). The grounds of Charlton house (Sir Spencer Maryon Wilson, Bart.) are very pretty, and remarkable for their cypresses. The house was built by Sir A. Newton in James I.'s reign, and the design is said to have been that of Inigo Jones. From Sir A. Newton it passed successively to Lord Downe (when Sir W. Ducie), the families of Langhorne and Maryon, to the present owner. Sir Adam was tutor to Henry, Prince of Wales, son of James I., and here it was that the latter lived and followed his studies. He died shortly afterwards (1612), aged 18. The house contains several features of interest, such as a fine old oak hall, a panelled oak gallery, a saloon with a sculptured chimney-piece, and a staircase of chestnut wood. There is also a good collection of natural history. The walk to Woolwich by the Hanging Woods is recommended.

10 WOOLWICH DOCKYARD STATION. For the last few years this celebrated dockyard has been closed. It dates from the reign of Henry VIII., although at first on a very small scale; and indeed it never became the largest or the most important of our English naval yards. The 'Royal George' was built here. The Dockyard station is the nearest for Woolwich Common, where there is to be found a large proportion of the most interesting objects of the place, and where all military exercises and reviews are held. To the W. is the Royal Military Repository, where instruction is given in heavy guns, pontooning, bridge-making, &c. The Rotunda contains a valuable and instructive museum (*open free from 10 to 5*), full of examples of ancient cannon, various styles of armour and weapons, models of forts, illustrations of projectiles, maps, plans, and all kinds of things bearing on ancient or modern military warfare. The obelisk in the centre of the Repository ground was erected by the regiment of Artillery to Sir A. Dickson, a former colonel. Eastwards is the line of Artillery barracks, with a fine Crimean monument in front, and a brass gun taken at Bhurtpore; also the garrison chapel, by Wyatt, and (facing the military hospital) the Royal Artillery Institution, devoted exclusively to that branch of the service. At the W. end of the barracks are a mortar battery, observatory, schools, &c. To the S. of the common is the Royal Military Academy, where are educated on an average two hundred cadets for the Artillery and Engineers; the building itself, though modern, being of mediæval design, by Wyatt, and containing a fine hall with much oak and stained glass. It was partially destroyed by fire two or three years ago. On the W. slope of Shooter's Hill is the Herbert military hospital, built 1865 (and named after Lord Herbert of Lea), to accommodate seven hundred patients. The visitor, while in this neighbourhood, will do well to ascend Shooter's Hill, from which is an exceedingly pretty view of the river and the country to the S. towards Lee and Eltham. It is said to have obtained its name from the gangs of footpads which infested the London and Dartford road in the old days. Severndroog Castle is a tower erected by Lady James to commemorate the taking of a place of that name in Malabar by Sir W. James, 1755.

10½ WOOLWICH STATION. (*Fares: 1s. 6d., 1s., 10d. Pop. 41,695. Hotels: King's Arms, Mitre.*) Woolwich is both dirty and disagreeable, and contains very little to interest the visitor except the Arsenal, which is close to the station. (*Open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 to 11.30 A.M., and 2 to 4.30 P.M., by tickets obtained from the War Office.*) The Arsenal was originally established at Moorfields until 1716; but an accident happening at that time from the explosion of a cannon, it was removed to Woolwich. This was done at the instance of one Andrew Schalch, a Swiss, who had warned the authorities at Moorfields of the probable danger, and who was afterwards rewarded by being made master founder of the new Arsenal at Woolwich. The first foundry built by him, and designed by *Vanbrugh*, is still in existence, and the gun itself (which burst) is in the Rotunda. The Arsenal, as it at present stands, is 4m. round, and not only contains vast stores of cannon, shot, shell, and ammunition generally, but workshops and factories of various kinds for making them. The principal departments are those of the carriage, gun factory, laboratory, and military control. In the carriage department is turned out every kind of carriage and transport used in war. Here may be seen saw mills, wheel making, wood cutting, mortising, and endless varieties of ingenious machines, for the most part worked by hydraulic power. In the gun factory are made Armstrong guns and "Woolwich Infants," not by casting as formerly, but by hammered iron and steel. All the operations of coiling, welding, boring, and rifling are carried on here on the most complete scale. In the laboratory is the shell foundry, where shells, fuses, percussion caps, Palliser's chilled shot, bullets, and Boxer cartridges are eliminated in countless millions; ball-cartridges and rockets being manipulated in another part of the Arsenal (N.E.), somewhat remote from the other factories, in order to diminish the risk of explosion as much as possible. To the E. is a large park of guns, and the marshes where all cannon and new inventions in artillery are proved, whether turned out from the Arsenal, or by private firms in other parts of the kingdom. From Woolwich pier there is a ferry to the N. Woolwich station (G.E.R.), close to which are the North Woolwich Gardens, a favourite holiday resort.

11½ PLUMSTEAD STATION. L. are the Plumstead Marshes,

for cannon proving and practice. The latter, however, has of late years been removed to Shoeburyness, near South-end. The village and church (Early English) are rt., and there are two other churches in the parish, which is becoming a populous one. 1½m. S.E. is East Wickham church, which has brasses to J. Bladigdone and wife, 1325, and to Wm. Payn, a Yeoman of the Guard, 1568, with his three wives and three sons.

13 ABBEY WOOD STATION, so called from the ruins of Lesnes Abbey (rt.), founded for Augustinian canons, 1178, by Chief Justice De Lucy, who himself joined the order in his own abbey. It was subsequently suppressed by Wolsey, and after belonging to several owners finally remained with Christ's hospital. The remains are very slight, and consist of the N. wall of the refectory. L. by the river side at Crossness, across the marshes, is the extensive pumping station of the Metropolitan Main Drainage, S. of the river, where this great underground system empties itself into the Thames.

14½ BELVEDERE STATION. Rt. is Belvedere, which formerly belonged to Sir Culling Eardley, and was celebrated for its collection of pictures. It is now the Asylum for the Shipwrecked Mariner's Society.

16 ERITH STATION. Here (the old Saxon ærre-hythe) was built Henry VIII.'s unwieldy ship, the 'Grace de Dieu,' 1515. Although it is becoming a very favourite resort for Londoners, it is still unusually rural and pretty. The church has brasses to Roger Sincler, of Lesnes Abbey, 1425, and John Aylmer and wife, 1435, together with altar-tomb and effigy to the Countess of Shrewsbury, 1568, and one to Lord Eardley by *Chantry*. This church has an historical association with Magna Charta, for it was here that Hubert de Burgh met the Barons to settle the terms of peace after the signing of the Charta. Near the station is Christ church, erected 1874. The geologist will be interested in a large sandpit, near the village (W.), in which elephant; usks have been found. The praises of Erith were much sung by the poet Bloomfield. (*Steamers from and to London and Gravesend call at the pier.*)

19 DARTFORD STATION. (*Junction with loop-line, p. 53.*)

Railway Excursions.

VII. ASHFORD TO CANTERBURY, MINSTER, SANDWICH, AND DEAL (S.E.R.).

ASHFORD JUNCTION. (*Refreshm. rooms. The railway from London to Ashford is described at p. 10. The distances are calculated from London.*) The S.E.R. to Rye and Hastings turns off due S., the main line to Dover S.E., while that to Canterbury, Deal, Ramsgate, and Margate runs N.E., with a very sharp curve. Rt. are the churches of Willesborough (Decorated sedilia) and Hinxhill (monuments and effigy of Robert Edolph and wife, 1631), l. that of Kennington. The chalk hills, trending up from the coast at Folkestone, approach the railway on rt., while on the opposite side are the low wooded hills, also gradually increasing in height, about Challock and Eastwell Park. Running side by side with the railway is the Stour.

58 WYE STATION. The little town (rt.) (*pop.* 1724) is well situated in the open plain, at the foot of the chalk cliffs. The Stour is crossed by a bridge of five arches. The church is still a fine one, though sadly fallen from its high estate in the days when it was rebuilt, and made collegiate by Archbishop Kempe (*temp.* Henry VI.), who was born in this parish. It then had a central tower, which fell and carried with it most of the other portions, and the greater part of the present building dates from the last century. It contains a brass or two, and some monuments to the Bretts. The college, also founded by Archbishop Kempe, adjoined the churchyard, and was a quadrangular building with a large hall, which now forms the schoolroom. This was formerly the residence of the provost and chaplains of the college. In 1724 it was given by Sir G. Wheler for the use of the grammar school, and of Lady Thornhill's Charity, founded 1708, for the education of poor children in Wye.

Excursions :

- a. Godmersham, 3m. (past Olantigh); and Chilham, 5m.
- b. Boughton Aluph, 2m.; Challock, 3½m.; and Eastwell (p. 143).
- c. Withersden 1m. S., where is the miraculous well of St. Eustace, a monk of the thirteenth century

which cures all diseases. 1½m. farther is Brooke church, which has a priest's chamber. Climb the Wye Downs for the view, which is very extensive.

After quitting Wye, the valley of the Stour narrows, and becomes very charming. (Rt.) Olantigh towers (J. S. Erle-Drax), the grounds of which contain a great deal of statuary. Above it is Tremworth Downs, on which was a Roman cemetery, yielding to the explorers large quantities of pottery and glass, forming part of the late Mr. Faussett's collection at Liverpool. Between Tremworth and the Roman road of Stone Street (p. 127) are the churches of Crundell and Waltham. The scenery becomes still more beautiful as the line skirts (l.) Godmersham Park (E. Knight) with its noble woods and uplands. At their foot nestles the little church of Godmersham (restored), consisting of chancel, nave, and lower tower. Not far from it is the manor house, belonging to the Archbishop of Canterbury, rebuilt by Prior H. de Estria, 1290, or Prior Sellynge (*temp.* Edward IV.). Over the doorway are some mouldings and the effigy of an ecclesiastic. Godmersham Park is usually let, the owner living in Hampshire.

63 CHILHAM STATION. The church and Chilham Castle (C. S. Hardy) are prominent and picturesque objects on l. The castle ruins consist of an octagonal Norman keep of three stories, the remainder having been pulled down at different times by successive owners. The first defensive position here was in the shape of a Roman camp, and, subsequently to this, it is said that King Lucius, a Brito-Roman chief, erected a fortress, which was afterwards enlarged by the Saxon kings. After the Conquest it came into the hands of Sir Fulbert de Dover (one of the Dover Castle knights), and then to the Badlesmeres of Leeds and Sir Thomas Cheyney, who carried off most of the materials to build his new house in Sheppey Isle. Sir Dudley Digges (seventeenth century) erected an entirely new house, which descended from him to the Colebrooks, Herons, Wildmans, and (by purchase) to the Hardys. The church (Decorated) has nave, aisles, chancel with aisles, and clerestory, the south chancel aisle being the burial place of the Digges family, while that of the north contains the monuments of the Colebrooks. Most of them are in bad taste, except two (seventeenth century), which are of marble,

worked with arabesque pattern. Not far from the station is a mound called Julaber's Grave, but who the hero is seems uncertain. Some think that it is intended for Julius Laberius, who was killed in a battle near here, while others interpret Julaber to be Julian's Bower, where games were held in the Roman era. Crossing the Stour the railway reaches

65 CHARTHAM STATION. A very pretty village, (rt.) with a large paper mill and a fine church, recently restored. It consists of Early English nave and Decorated chancel, with side windows of exceedingly pretty tracery, called by archæologists "Kentish," and a four-light east window. Some of the original stained glass still remains. There is here one of the finest brasses in Kent, belonging to a knight of the Septvans family, in armour of the time of Edward II.; also one to Jane Clyffoht, 1530, and a monument by *Rysbrach* to Sir William Young and wife, 1788, and one to the family of Fagge, of Mystole. Dr. Delangle, a French refugee, canon of Westminster and former rector of Chartham, is buried here, he having before his death built the house on the village green, with a bust of Charles II. over it. The downs above Chartham, on which a number of barrows of early British date were opened by the late Mr. Faussett, are crowned by a huge new County Lunatic Asylum, a small town in itself. After passing Chartham station, the L.C.D.R. comes in sight (l.) on the hill above. A little before it crosses the S.E.R. is (l.) Turnford, or Tuniford, where are remains of an old castellated and moated house, belonging to the family of that name, with a Perpendicular gateway. After the crossing of the two lines, there is a fine view (rt.) of the towers of the cathedral, and the train soon reaches

68 CANTERBURY STATION. (*Refreshm. rooms. Junction with Whitstable branch. Fares from London: 15s., 10s. 6d., 5s. 4d. The L.C.D.R. has a station S. of the city. Pop. 20,962. Hotels: Fountain, Rose, Fleur de Lys, Fleece. Coach in summer to Ramsgate and Margate. Distances: Ashford, 15½m.; Wye, 10m.; Chartham, 3m.; Chilham, 5m.; Faversham, 10m.; Blean, 2½m.; Hackington, 1m.; Harbledown, 1m.; Sturry, 2½m.; Fordwich, 2½m.; Deal, 17m.; Sandwich, 12m.; Littlebourne, 4m.; Wingham, 6m.; Ash, 9m.; Bridge, 3m.; Bishopsbourne, 4m.; Adisham, 6m.; Barfreston, 8½m.; Dover, 16m.*) Canter-

bury is situated on a plain on the banks of the Stour, with gently rising hills on every side, just as the old Roman station Durovernum and the subsequent Saxon Cantwarabyrig were situated centuries before. Its history is almost entirely of an ecclesiastical character, as befits the city which is the metropolitan see of England, and the one from which the Christianity of the kingdom first flowed. In 597 Ethelbert became converted through the preaching of Augustine, and from this time forth Canterbury became of great importance as an ecclesiastical centre, though it was not until after the murder of Thomas à Becket in 1170, that it assumed the leadership of every other church, and attracted such a constant stream of pilgrims and visitors. As the cathedral is naturally the great object of attraction, it will be best to commence with its description. The visitor turns out of the High Street into the Mercery Lane, so called because it was formerly devoted to the sale of sacred wares, such as leaden à Becket brooches, to the pilgrims, as they entered or emerged from the visit to the shrine. Readers of Chaucer will be interested to know that the corner house of the lane was the inn or hostelry of the Checquers of the Hope, where Chaucer's pilgrims took up their quarters. As lately as 1865 a large room existed, which was entered by stairs from the outside, and called the Dormitory of the Hundred Beds; but this was burnt down in that year. The hospitium itself was really the work of Prior Chillenden, 1390. At the end of Mercery Lane is Christ church gate, 1517, built by Prior Goldstone, and a splendid example of late Perpendicular. The figure of Christ, which once filled the niche, was taken away in 1643. The visitor now enters the precincts, in the centre of which stands the glorious cathedral. (*Open for inspection from 9 A.M. till 7 P.M., except during the hours of service, which are at 10 A.M. and 3 P.M.*) Its history is so incorporated with its architectural features, that it is only by visiting each portion of the building, we are enabled to arrive at the different eras of the church, which, it must be borne in mind, is the *third* erected on the same ground. The first church was the very early Roman or Romano-Briton one, said to have been founded by King Lucius. This church was given by the converted King Ethelbert to Augustine, but in 1011 it was injured by the Danes, who carried off and

massacred the Archbishop Alphege; and it was finally destroyed about the time of the Conquest. This church, therefore, has utterly disappeared. When Archbishop Lanfranc was appointed, 1070, he commenced to rebuild both church and monastery; for it must be remembered that Augustine's foundation comprised not only a church, but a monastic establishment, which became of great importance, the priors of Christ church taking a high rank in matters ecclesiastical. Lanfranc's church, commenced by him and proceeded with by Archbishop Anselm and Prior Conrad, was dedicated with great splendour, 1130, and in this (*second*) church Archbishop à Becket was murdered forty years afterwards. In 1174 the choir (specially built by Conrad) was burnt down (a fate that has nearly befallen Canterbury in our own day, as lately as 1872); and the rebuilding of the *third* church then took place. The choir was the first part to be rebuilt, the architect being William of Sens, and at his death from an accident, the work was carried on by one of the same name, who, for the sake of distinction, was called English William. Two hundred years afterwards Lanfranc's original nave was taken down, and a new one built by Prior Chillenden, 1378; then came the great central tower of Bell Harry, by Prior Goldstone, 1495. At different times, therefore, from between 1070 (Archbishop Lanfranc) to 1500 (Prior Goldstone), was this noble temple in course of construction, and it is no wonder that it exhibits so many styles and peculiarities of detail, although the two most prominent architectural eras are those of Transition Norman, and Perpendicular. Before visiting each successive portion, it may be stated briefly that the dimensions are—514 feet total length, 180 length of choir, 214 length of nave, 71 breadth of nave and aisles; height of great tower, 135 feet.

The present entrance is, and always has been, by the *S. porch*, built by Prior Chillenden, 1400. The figures of à Becket's murderers, which formerly adorned it, have disappeared; but these and other niches have been filled more worthily with figures of those connected with the cathedral at different times, an excellent idea suggested and carried out by Dean Alford, 1863. The *S. porch* contains on its three faces twenty-two figures, and it is intended to proceed all round the tower and western entrance in the same way, until the whole number of

sixty-seven niches are filled. The *nave* dates about 1380; architect, Prior Chillenden. Lanfranc's original piers were altogether built by him. One of the chief peculiarities in the view arises from the fact of the choir being raised so much above it, on account of the crypt, with the exception of Rochester, an unique feature in English cathedrals. The great W. window is a fragmentary collection of stained glass, of which the most salient figures are seven English kings and the twelve apostles; but the nave windows otherwise form a series of subjects from the Te Deum. *Monuments*: (S. aisle of nave) Archbishop Sumner, 1862; Dean Lyall, 1857; Bishop Broughton (Sydney); (N. aisle) Orlando Gibbons, the organist and chapel master to Charles I.; Adrian Saravia, a friend of Hooker; Sir John Boys, 1614; Sir James Hales; with several military memorials. Between the nave and choir is the area of the central tower, the piers of which may be Lanfranc's original piers, altered by Chillenden when he rebuilt the nave. The tower itself, with its vaulted roof, was the second Prior Goldstone's work, whose rebus is seen on the arches that support the piers. The screen dividing the choir from the nave is fifteenth-century work, and contains a most elaborate series of beautifully carved figures, of which one, wearing a crown and holding a church, is supposed to be Ethelbert. The whole of it has been restored. The *choir* (180 feet long) was the work of William of Sens, and his successor, English William. When Conrad's choir was burnt, the former architect was sent for, and as he was naturally imbued with the style prevalent in the cathedral of Sens, he imported the same features into that of Canterbury, the striking points of which may be noticed in the double piers, the mixture of round and pointed arches (as in the triforium) and the profusion of Norman and Early English moulding. But William of Sens did not live to finish his work, for he fell from the clerestory, and at his death English William took it up and followed out his plans. The visitor will notice how curiously the choir walls approach each other towards the head of the church, giving the interior a most peculiar curved outline; and this was because the architect wished to prolong this part of the church so as to unite with the towers of St. Andrew and St. Anselm, one on each side, which had escaped being burnt down.

The choir, therefore, had to be built *up* to them. The most noticeable features of the choir are Prior H. de Estria's screen (1304), the reredos (the second of the kind), the archbishop's throne of stone tabernacle work, given by Archbishop Howley, and the organ, which is most ingeniously placed in the triforium of the S. aisle of the choir. It is completely out of sight, but the instrument (a very old-fashioned one) is played by the organist from a keyboard just behind the singers. This arrangement has a far more beautiful effect for sound than when the organ was in the usual position over the choir screen. The most ancient part of the choir is supposed to be a little bit of pavement lying between the transepts, which formed part of Conrad's choir, and Archbishop à Becket's body may have actually laid there while it was being watched by the monks after the murder. In addition to the high altar, the choir contained the shrines of St. Dunstan and St. Alphege, but these have all disappeared since the Reformation. The next point of interest is the *north transept*, or transept of the martyrdom, which was so far altered by Prior Chillenden as to be almost new. On the W. side is a door leading into the cloisters, the actual door by which the knights who murdered à Becket entered. The Archbishop himself was standing in the transept in front of a wall (which still remains) between what was then the chapel of St. Benedict and the passage leading to the crypt, and here it was that he fell, despatched by the blows of Tracy, Richard le Bret, and Reginald Fitz-Urse, Hugh de Moreville being the only one who did not strike him. The date of this tragedy, which made Canterbury celebrated throughout the world, was December 29, 1170. The pavement in front of the wall is believed to be the identical pavement on which à Becket fell. The figures in the transept window are those of Edward IV. and his queen. A fine window has been lately given by Canon Moore, illustrating the whole story of the murder. *Monuments*: Archbishop Peckham, 1292, buried on the spot where Edward I. was married to Margaret, of France; and Archbishop Warham, 1532, famous for his entertainments to royalty. To the E. of the transept is the *Lady chapel*, which has a rich fan vault, and was built by Prior Goldstone in lieu of the old St. Benedict chapel. A great many deans are buried here, such as Deans Fotherby, 1619; Bargrave,

1642; Turner, 1643; Boys, Neville, &c. Proceeding eastward is the *N. choir aisle*, which has some of Prior Ernulf's original work, improved upon by William of Sens. In the *N. choir transept* the triforium windows are the work of Ernulf, the arcade, of William of Sens. The E. wall of the transept consists of two apses in which were the altars of SS. Stephen and Martin. There are some good memorial windows here, and the stained glass (thirteenth century) in the choir aisle and transept is remarkably beautiful. *Monuments*: Archbishop Chicheley, 1444; Cardinal Archbishop Bouchier, 1486; and Archbishop Howley, who was really buried at Addington in Surrey. At the east end of the N. choir aisle, and at the corner, is *St. Andrew's tower*, over the sacristy, now the vestry. This tower, part of Lanfranc's original building, escaped the fire in 1174, and the chapel has an old painted roof. From the choir and aisle a flight of steps leads to the *Trinity chapel* immediately at the back of the choir, the elevation being necessitated by the height of the crypt underneath. The chapel and the corona behind is all the work of English William, and here it was that à Becket's shrine was placed in 1220, his body being brought hither from the crypt, in the presence of a most distinguished assemblage, including the young King Henry III. Subsequently many kings and princes in England and on the Continent visited this famous spot, which kept its prestige till 1538, when, by order of Henry VIII., the shrine was taken away, the treasures forfeited to the crown, and the saintly Archbishop de-canonicalised. The windows of the Trinity chapel are remarkably beautiful, and are filled with representations of the miracles performed by à Becket after his death. The *monuments* are very important, and include that of Edward the Black Prince, with a brass effigy of the Trinity shown on a canopy; Henry IV., and his wife (Joan of Navarre); Archbishop Courtenay, 1396; Dean Wotton (Henry VIII.); and Odo Coligny, Cardinal Castillon. The *Corona*, at the extreme end of the cathedral, was the work of English William, and contains the monument of Cardinal Pole, 1558. The windows are of the same character as those of the Trinity chapel, the S. side of which the visitor now skirts to the *S. choir aisle*. At the corner, facing St. Andrew's tower, is St. Anselm's tower, built by Prior Ernulf, and with a Decorated window

by Prior H. de Estria, 1336. At its E. end is Archbishop Anselm's tomb, 1109, and above the chapel is a room which was used as a watching room to guard the treasures of St. Thomas's shrine. At the entrance to the tower, forming the screen, is the monument of Archbishop de Meopham, 1333; and below it, in the choir aisle, are those of Archbishop Simon of Sudbury, 1381; Archbishop Stratford, 1348; and Archbishop Kempe, 1454. The *S.E. transept* formerly held, in its two apses, the altars of St. John and Gregory, with the tomb of a Saxon archbishop. Here is placed the chair of St. Augustine (which formerly stood at the head of the choir), which has always done duty as the metropolitan chair, in which successive archbishops are enthroned. Continuing W., along the S. choir aisle, are monuments of Archbishop Hubert Walter, 1205; and Archbishop Reynolds, 1327. The S. transept was mainly built by Prior Chilenden, and has the monument of Casaubon, a prebendary in 1671. Opening from the transept on E., and corresponding to the Lady chapel on the other side, is *St. Michael's*, or the warrior's chapel. *Monuments*: Margaret Holland and two husbands, 1437; Archbishop Langton, 1228, so familiar to us in connection with Magna Charta; Lady Thornhurst, 1609. The *crypt* is of great size and interest, and is the same that existed in Prior Conrad's time. The portion at the E. end is the chapel of Our Lady Undercroft, and has monuments to Archbishop Morton, 1500; and Lady Mohun, 1395. The crypt has been devoted since 1561 to a French congregation, who have assembled here for service from the time of the Edict of Nantes to the present day. The members of this congregation were originally refugee clothiers and silk weavers. The other remaining points of interest are the chantry in the S. side of the aisle, founded by the Black Prince on his marriage; the chapel of St. John, very dark, and probably a hiding place for treasure; and the E. portion, which is open to the light of day, and where (though in an earlier building) a Becket's body was placed after the murder, until it was translated to the shrine.

Of the *towers* of the cathedral, the S.W. (St. Dunstan's) was built by Archbishop Chicheley, 1444, and the N.W. (formerly called the Arundel steeple) is modern. The central tower, or Bell Harry, is 235 feet high, and a splendid example of Perpendicular. The *cloisters* are

entered from the N.W. transept, and are late Perpendicular. Here it was that the altercation took place between the knights and a Becket, previous to his being dragged into the N. transept by the monks. The door was immediately barred, but a Becket ordered it to be opened again, saying that he would not have his church made into a castle. E. of the cloister is the *Chapter House* or Sermon House, to which the congregation adjourned after prayers. It was built by Archbishops Courtenay and Arundel (fifteenth century), and has a stone bench running round for the monks, with seats for the prior and high dignitaries. Near this is the *New Library*, an old Norman building restored, and the roof supported by Norman arches. E. of the library is the *Baptistry*, the upper part of which, entered from the cathedral, contains a marble font given by Archbishop Warner. A good view of the baptistry and some Roman remains found at Reculver, and which were placed in the garden E. of the cloisters, is obtained from the S. side of the *Green Court*. This latter is entered from the cathedral by a passage called the *Dark Entry* (celebrated in the 'Ingoldsby Legends,' and at the end of which is the Priory gate. On the E. of the Green Court, which is a beautiful quadrangle, with grass plot in the centre, is the *Deanery* (formerly the Prior's lodgings). The S. side, where stood the refectory and dormitory, is now open, divided from the baptistry garden by a railing. On the N. is a range of buildings, formerly the hospitium or strangers' hall, and in the N.E. corner is a fine gateway, which was the entry to this hall. On the N.W. is the Almonry or Mint Yard, where Henry VIII. coined money; and here is now the *King's School*, the upper hall of which is entered by a most exquisite and unique Norman staircase. The King's School was founded by Henry VIII., and has always held a high reputation for scholarship, and never more so than at present. The Porter's, or Green Court gate, has a fine Norman arch and closes the Precincts on this side. Returning to the Dark Entry and keeping straight on, instead of turning off to the Green Court, the visitor enters a paved alley called the Brick Walk, running alongside the N.E. part of the cathedral. On l. of this walk is a house called the *Maister Honours*, from its having been the state rooms in which the Prior entertained his guests. On rt. is a row of Norman arches,

which belonged to the *Infirmary*; and farther E. is the nave of the infirmary church. To the S. formerly was the convent garden, where the sick monks could enter from the infirmary. In Palace Street (entered by the Porter's gate) is an arched doorway, all that is left of the archbishops' palace, once famous for its hospitalities and for the royal and distinguished guests that were entertained here. Having examined the cathedral and the remains of the Christ church Priory, the tourist should visit the monastery of St. Augustine, now incorporated with St. Augustine's College (*no admission until the afternoon*). This building was on the site of a pagan church, which Ethelbert handed over to Augustine on his conversion. The latter immediately established a monastery for Benedictines, called SS. Peter and Paul, to which dedication St. Dunstan afterwards added the more lasting name of St. Augustine. For many years this monastery was even more important than its neighbour of Christ church, and the abbots held themselves very high amongst Benedictines. But at the Dissolution it fell into ruin, and now all that is left is a wall of the church (N. aisle) and doorway; also, at the N.E. end of what was the cemetery, the remains of St. Pancras chapel, and the two gates of the principal entrance and the cemetery. It is not so very many years ago that St. Ethelbert's tower existed behind the latter, but it was taken down lest it should fall and injure the Kent hospital, a notable example of Canterbury imbecility. The first of these two gateways, which is the entrance to the college, was built by Abbot Fyndon, 1300; the second by Ickman, 1399. A royal palace took the place of the monastery after the Dissolution, which was given by Queen Mary to Cardinal Pole, and, in later years, to Lord Wotton, after which it was known as Lady Wotton's palace. But it gradually fell into lower depths, a cockpit, a fives-court, a bowling alley, and lastly a brewery, occupying the site and ruins, until, in 1844, it was bought by Mr. Beresford Hope, and rebuilt as a missionary college, from designs by *Butterfield*, for a warden, six fellows, and about fifty students. The ancient foundation is, therefore, refulfilling its early intention. The buildings now consist chiefly of the library (which has a fine Oriental collection) on the site of the refectory, the College Hall (the original Guest Hall, with its open

roof), the chapel and the cloisters, with the students' rooms above. On the S. side of the quadrangle are the scanty ruins of the old church. The open ground in front of the principal gateway is still called Lady Wotton's Green.

St. Martin's church, on the hill above the city, close to the Littlebourne road, is the next most interesting point, though more for its associations than for anything else, for it is the mother church of England, and was a Christian chapel at the time of Ethelbert, the Saxon king who was baptized here by Augustine. The present church is on the site of Augustine's church. Bertha, the wife of Ethelbert, had this chapel for her especial use, and was herself buried in St. Augustine's church. It has Roman walling in parts of it, though the chancel is Early English. The stained glass windows record its history, and the font is said (traditionally) to be the one in which Ethelbert was baptized. The view from St. Martin's over the city and the vale of the Stour is very charming. The other churches in Canterbury most worth visiting are, St. Dunstan's (beyond the S.E.R., on the Whitstable road), which has a semicircular tower, in addition to the square tower at the W. It contains the monuments of the Ropers (Henry IV.), one of whom, Margaret Roper, was the daughter of Sir Thomas More, and it is said that the Roper vaults still contain Sir Thomas's head. A brewery close by was the old manor house of the Ropers. St. Mildred's, near the castle, restored by *Butterfield*, has Roman work in it. Holy Cross church was originally the upper part of the West gate, but was subsequently removed to the S. of it. It has six miserere seats and an old panelled ceiling in the chancel. St. Alphege contains brasses to the Mainwaring family, and on one of the seats in the S. arch is carved the rebus of Caxton the printer, who was born in the Weald of Kent. The "spitals" or hospitals of Canterbury were very numerous, though many of them have disappeared. St. Thomas' (East Bridge, or King's Bridge) hospital was built by Archbishop à Becket for the accommodation of those pilgrims who could not afford the more expensive quarters of the Checquers. It has a quaint archway, down some steps, and some old vaulted rooms, now used as a schoolroom. In Stour Street is Mayner's Spital, for four brothers and sisters, and also Poor Priests' hospital,

founded 1240, by Archdeacon Langton. It is now divided between a dwelling house and a Bluecoat school. In Northgate Street is St. John's hospital, entered by a curious wooden archway. It was founded by Archbishop Lanfranc for one hundred poor, who were looked after by the Augustinian Black Canons, of the Priory of St. Gregory, which was opposite, but has long since disappeared. The group of buildings inside the gateway is picturesque, and contains the kitchen and hall in the S.W. corner, and the chapel, which has an interesting font. Farther on, in the same street, is Boys' hospital, founded by Sir John Boys, 1612, for a warden, seven brothers, and four sisters. The monastic establishments were also numerous. That of the Black Friars (established by Henry III.), in St. Peter's Street (N. side), is now used as dwellings, while the hall is a Unitarian meeting house. That of the Grey Friars has disappeared, except a few walls S. of St. Peter's Street. Near Oaten Hill (S. of the city) are a few remains of St. Sepulchre's Nunnery, founded by Archbishop Anselm, 1100. Both the Knights Templars and St. Gregory's Priory have disappeared. Of the six old gates of the city, the West gate is the only one left. It stands close to the Stour, and is passed under by all travellers from the S.E.R. It was built by Archbishop Simon of Sudbury, and is now used as a police-station. Portions of the walls are to be seen in Broad Street (E. of the cathedral), with a few of the wall turrets. There is also a most interesting and pleasant walk round the walls and gardens of the Dane John, the latter planted by a Mr. Simmons, 1790. At the S.W. end is the Dane John itself, a lofty tumulus crowned by an obelisk, from which is a charming view over Thanington and the valley of the Stour towards Chartham. Close by is the L.C.D.R. station, which, it may be mentioned, is on the site of the Martyr's Field, where upwards of eighteen persons were burnt by order of Cardinal Pole. On the N. of the Dane John in Castle Street, are the ruins of the castle, now degraded into a gaswork. The Norman keep was the largest but two in the kingdom, and resembles Rochester in the plan of its building. The Guildhall contains some portraits of local worthies and armour, and in the museum (close by) is a very interesting collection of antiquities, including the Anglo-Saxon remains from the cemetery of Sarr. The natural history

and geology of Kent are also admirably illustrated. The city contains several old houses, amongst which are the Star Inn, a gabled house without the walls, not far from S.E.R., and a fine timbered house in Stour Street.

Excursions :

- a. Thanington, 1m.; Horton, 2½m.; Chartham, 3m.; and Chilham, 5m. (p. 69).
- b. Bridge, 3m.; Bekesbourne, 3½m.; Barfreston, 8½m.; and Bishopsbourne, 4m. (p. 41).
- c. Stone Street and churches in vicinity (p. 127).
- d. Littlebourne, 4m.; Wingham, 6m.; and Ickham, 5m. (p. 136).
- e. St. Stephen's, Hales Place, Sturry, and Fordwich, 2½m. (*post*).
- f. Harbledown and Blean wood. From the hill of Harbledown, 1m. on the road to Faversham, is one of the most beautiful views of Canterbury. The village itself is celebrated by Chaucer, as being the nearest place to à Becket's shrine on the Pilgrims' road. The hospital of St. Nicholas was founded here for lepers by Archbishop Lanfranc, which, though devoted to other charitable uses, has been twice rebuilt since then. The foundation now consists of a master, nine brethren, and seven sisters. A few antiquarian curiosities are shown. The church of the hospital is partly in ruins, and has a Norman W. door. A little farther on commences Blean wood, on the edge of which was formerly set up the Archbishop's gallows. On St. Thomas' Hill, near Harbledown, was a chapel founded by à Becket, now replaced by the Clergy Orphan School for one hundred and twenty boys, a fine group of buildings by *Hardwicke*.

From CANTERBURY STATION, leaving the Whitstable branch to l., the line takes a N.E. course, passing (l.) amongst the trees, the church of St. Stephen, Hackington (restored), which occupies the site of a college established by Archbishop Baldwin (*temp.* Henry III.) for secular canons; but owing to the opposition of the Canterbury monks, the college did not succeed. Subsequently St. Stephen's became the residence of the arch-

deacons, and Archbishop Warham died here. The church, with the exception of the windows, which are Decorated, is excellent Early English, and contains a monument to Sir Roger Manwood (Chief Baron in the time of Elizabeth), who held the manor and built a residence adjoining. This house, however, fell into decay, and the manor passed to Sir Edward Hales, an active Romanist, and a friend of James II. The present mansion of Hales Place (Miss Hales) is a staring red-brick pile, situated in a pretty park (l.), and, as in the time of Sir Edward Hales, it is devoted to Roman Catholic purposes. On the hillside above the house is a pretty Roman Catholic church.

70½ STURRY STATION. The village, the name of which sufficiently betokens the neighbourhood of the Stour, is on rt., and was formerly a summer residence of the Abbots of St. Augustine. A farmhouse contains a portion of the old residence of Lord Strangford (*temp.* James I.). On the opposite bank of the Stour, crossed here by two bridges, is Fordwich, which shares in the distinction of being a Cinque Port with Sandwich, the tide in old days reaching as high as this. Although an excessively small village (*pop.* 202), Fordwich is governed by a mayor and corporation, of the election and proceedings of which rather curious stories are told. The church has a brass to Aphra Hawkins (seventeenth century). The railway now enters for several miles a vast system of marshes, through which the Stour winds its devious channel. Unpromising as they are in a scenic point of view, these flats have an interesting association with the very earliest history of England; for during the Roman occupation they were covered by the tide, which flowed past Sandwich and the walls of Richborough, the ancient Rutupiæ. The name of the Wantsum channel, which now empties itself into the sea at Reculver, and completes the waterway by which Thanet is made an island, was given to the whole passage between Richborough and Reculver, and many a Roman galley must have sailed up the valley through which the trains of the S.E.R. now glide; l. is Westbere church (Early English); and across the marsh is (rt.) Stodmarsh church.

74½ GROVE FERRY STATION. Here (rt.) are tea gardens famous for their strawberries. The ferry (a big boat, nearly as broad as the river) is the nearest way to

Wingham and Preston, and this is the nearest S.E.R. station for Reculver (p. 43), about 5m. l., the towers of which are soon visible in the distance. Farther on (l.) is Sarr, which was formerly the position of the *old* ferry into Thanet. An Anglo-Saxon cemetery was discovered here, which has yielded large numbers of coins and other remains, to be seen in the Canterbury Museum. On the rising ground (l. 1½m.) is St. Nicholas at Wade, in which parish was another ford over the Wantsum. The church, built by the monks of Christ church, is Norman, Early English, and Decorated, and has dimensions and details far above the ordinary run of country churches. It possesses a brass to Valentine Edvardod and his two wives, 1559, and the porch has a parvise chamber over it. Farther on and near the railway (l.) is Monkton church, which, as its name implies, also belonged to the Canterbury monks. It contains a monument to William Francis Blecheden, and a brass to a former vicar. The adjoining farmhouse was probably the manor house of the monks.

79 MINSTER STATION. (*Junction with Ramsgate and Margate branch. Fares: 15s., 10s. 6d., 6s. 5d.*) The village of Minster (l.), amongst the trees, is remarkable for an unusually fine church, and some interesting associations with the earliest history of the county. King Egbert, the fourth Christian king of Kent, had murdered two Saxon princes, his young cousins, and to expiate this crime agreed to found a nunnery, and to endow it with as much land as a hind would run in one course. The house, of which Dompneva was the first abbess, became rich and important until the eleventh century, when the Danes burnt it, with the abbess and all the nuns. The church (restored) is cruciform, and has a Norman nave, Early English transepts and choir, with miserere stalls carved with humorous subjects. It contains one or two curiosities, such as an old chained Bible and a chest made out of an oak trunk. E. of the church is Minster Court, in which resided the monks who took care of the property for St. Augustine's monastery. It contains some twelfth-century remains. Minster is a pleasant little village, straggling up the hill, at the top of which is the Union House, near which point the road falls into the high road from Canterbury to Ramsgate by Sarr. The view is very extensive and interesting, embracing

(rt.) the distant towers of Canterbury, with a large extent of the intervening marsh country. Right in front is the spire of Ash church and the tower of Eastry, while to the l. are the mound and walls of Richborough, with Sandwich forming a background. Farther away are Deal and Walmer, with the chalk ranges in the neighbourhood of Kingsdown and Ringwould, while on the extreme l. are the white cliffs of Ramsgate, and Ebbsfleet, where Augustine first set foot on English soil. Apart from the scenic effect, there is scarcely a view in the kingdom which combines at one glance so much of its history, from the earliest times to the present. Minster is about 5m. from Margate, by Acol and Quex, and not quite so far to Ramsgate. Both walks are interesting for the distant sea views, though the inland portions of Thanet are remarkably monotonous, not to say dreary.

From Minster the railway to Ramsgate keeps due E., gradually rising to the summit of the chalk cliffs, which is attained at ST. LAWRENCE STATION (*junction with the Margate branch*).

The Deal branch runs S. through the marshes, and soon crosses the Stour by a singular swing bridge, then passes close under the walls of Richborough Castle (rt.) to

84 SANDWICH STATION. (*Pop.* 3060. *Inns*: *King's Head, Bell.*) This ancient town, in the time of Edward IV. a seaport of such activity and wealth that the Customs yielded 17,000*l.* a year, and that it had 95 ships and 1500 sailors, is now some 4m. distant from the sea (following the course of the river), and so difficult of access that only comparatively small craft can reach it. In keeping with the decay of the port, the town itself has become so stagnant that the grass is said to grow in some of the streets. But apart from its commercial dulness, it is an interesting place, both for old associations and present remains. It first of all began to flourish on the decline of Rutupiaë, and soon became a rendezvous for the English fleets (it is still the oldest of the Cinque Ports). Ethelred's fleet was assembled here to repulse the Danes. Here too à Becket landed, 1170, on his return in triumph to Canterbury; also Cœur de Lion on his escape from Austria, and Edward III., after the surrender of Calais, and, finally, Queen Elizabeth visited it in 1572. About the beginning of the sixteenth century the harbour began

to fill up, and from that moment commences the decay of Sandwich; although for some time afterwards it continued of importance, from the fact of a number of French and Flemish refugees settling here—a circumstance which accounts for the foreign character of many of the names. The town was surrounded by walls, of which a considerable portion still exists, formed into a pleasant open walk, bordered by planted slopes, very much resembling a Belgian or Flemish town. It had five gates, of which only one, the Fisher gate, is left, although there is a fine gateway tower of later date, called the Barbican, through which the road to Ramsgate runs close to the port. At the S. end of the town, well seen from the railway, is St. Clement's church, with a low Norman central tower, ornamented with a beautiful wall arcade, and a corresponding one inside. It has N. and S. aisles, with chapels, some miserere stalls, a brass to Elizabeth Spencer, 1583, a roof with gilt bosses and angels, and a font of the time of Henry VII. with the arms of England and France. The Mayor's seat has also the Royal arms on it. A special service used to be held here for the Flemish residents. St. Peter's church has a tower as ugly as St. Clement's is beautiful. It is built of bricks made out of the harbour mud. The interior has been well restored, and contains monuments to Sir John Grove (Henry VI.), Thos. Ellis, 1392, the founder of St. Thomas' hospital, Adam Stauner, and a brass for T. Gilbert, 1597. St. Thomas' hospital was close to the church, but has been rebuilt in the outskirts of the town. St. Mary's (in Strand Street), which occupies the site of a chapel built by Egbert to expiate the murder of his nephews (*see* Minster), was burnt by the French in 1456, and afterwards rebuilt. It contains the monument of Sir Roger Manwood of Hales Place, near Canterbury, whose father was a draper in Sandwich. Sir Roger founded the grammar school, a picturesque old Flemish building on the Ash road, with crowstepped gables, and the date of the foundation, 1564, in gigantic letters. A new school has recently been built, more in the town. The hospital of St. John, founded 1280, is in the corn market. The brothers were a very poor community, who used to beg in the streets and down by the ships, but a building existed at the back of the hospital called "The Harbinger," where travellers were lodged. St. Bartholomew's hospital,

originally founded for lepers in the twelfth century, is outside the town, on the Deal road. It is now a flourishing property, and supports sixteen brothers and sisters. Attached to the buildings is an Early English chapel, with the altar-tomb of Sir H. de Sandwich, a great benefactor to the hospital. In addition to these interesting establishments there are some old houses in the town which will repay a visit, such as the Guildhall, of Elizabethan date, a house in Strand Street, with wood carving, in which Queen Elizabeth was lodged during her visit, and another with carved oak panels of Henry VIII.'s time.

Excursions :

- a. Ebbsfleet, 3m. ; Pegwell Bay, 5m. ; and Ramsgate, 6m. (p. 46).
- b. Woodensborough, 1½m. ; Eastry, 2½m. ; and Ash, 3m. (p. 135).
- c. Richborough Castle, 1m. in direct line, but nearly 2m. to walk.

Richborough, whose mouldering walls overhang the Stour and the railway to Minster, was the celebrated fortress and Roman station of Rutupiaë, the landing place for the Roman forces from the opposite shores of Boulogne. The "Littus Rutupinum" was familiar to Roman ears, not only in connection with this important passage, but as yielding a very delicate oyster, much in favour with the gourmands of those days. Rutupiaë was one of a series of fortified "castra" built by the Romans on this coast—Reculver, Lymne, and perhaps Dover, being the others—and it commanded not only the landing place (for it must be remembered that the sea in those days washed the cliffs here), but also the whole of the channel of the Wantsum, which cut off Thanet from the main land. It is uncertain who was the actual builder of these walls, but it was probably the Roman general Stilicho, who was one of the last in command of Britain, and who put the district into a state of defence. It is certain, however, that the famous 2nd Legion, whose usual quarters were Chester, was stationed here also. As it was a fortress only, and not a walled town, the arrangement will be found to be very simple, and on a comparatively small scale. In fact, it

is a rectangular enclosure, surrounded by four walls, of which the N. is the best preserved. It is 460 feet long, and from 20 to 30 feet in height. At the N.W. angle are remains of a round tower, and besides these corner towers, there were two square towers on each wall, one of which still exists on the W. wall. In the N. wall centre was a postern, and here the wall is 10 feet 8 inches thick. The W. wall contains, in addition to the square tower, the entrance to the Decuman Gate, and here a stone pavement was once found; and there is another square tower on the S. wall (looking towards Deal). These towers were probably chambers for sentries. The walls themselves are composed of sandstone and boulders, cemented with mortar, the facing on the inside being chiefly of flints, and externally of courses of grit and Portland stone. In the interior area (near the N.E. corner) is a cross marked out on the ground, the object of which was for long a puzzle to antiquaries. There had evidently been a building above it, and excavations by the Kent Archæological Society proved that there was a solid mass of masonry below it. It is generally understood that this structure was a pharos, intended for a seamark or lighthouse, for the guidance of the troop vessels coming over from Boulogne. On the summit of the hill on which Richborough is built (S.W. of it) are the remains of an amphitheatre, elliptical in shape, and about 200 feet in length, with three entrances. This was doubtless the exercise or recreation ground of the garrison troops. The visitor may extend his excursion to Ash, the spire of which is conspicuous some 2m. W., but the way is extremely difficult to find, and it is better reached from Sandwich.

The railway continues its course to Deal, over the marshes, passing (rt.) the little Norman church of Worth, and having a distant view (rt.) of Eastry church and Union house. Farther on (same side) are the church towers of Northbourne and Great Mongeham. (L.) the view of the sea is much interfered with by sandhills, but the number of masts that are visible above these betokens the presence of the Downs.

90 DEAL STATION. (*Fares from London: 17s., 11s. 10d., 7s. Pop. 8009. Inns: Royal, White Horse, Walmer Castle. Coaches daily to Walmer and Dover. Deal is described at p. 132.*)

Railway Excursions.

VIII. TUNBRIDGE TO TUNBRIDGE WELLS (S.E.R.).

From TUNBRIDGE STATION the Hastings branch of S.E.R. takes a due southerly course, running through a charmingly wooded and broken country. (L.) Somerhill Park (Julian Goldsmid), a very pretty park and picturesque house, restored by *Wyattville*. It was built in the sixteenth century by the Earl of Clanricarde, and during Charles II.'s resort to the Wells was a favourite excursion for the courtiers. There are two roads from Tunbridge to the Wells; one on the rt. of the railway through Southborough, a pleasant common on high ground, becoming fast dotted with villas and residences; the other, on l., past Somerhill; and farther S. (a little off the road), Pembury (*Hotel: Camden*). The parish church is Norman, and a new one has been built by the Marquess of Camden.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS STATION. (*Refreshm. rooms. Pop.* 19,410. *Hotels: Calverley, Mount Ephraim, Royal Sussex, Castle. Railway Station, L.B.S.C., near the Pantiles. Fares from London: 9s., 6s. 6d., 3s. 6d. Omnibus to Southborough and Maidstone. Coach to London during the summer. Distances: Tunbridge, 5m.; Southborough, 2m.; Penshurst, 6m.; Eridge, 3m.; Frant, 2m.; Pembury, 3m.; Groombridge, 3½m.; Speldhurst, 3m.; East Grinstead, 13m.*) Tunbridge Wells is, as far as situation and beauty of neighbourhood go, one of the most charming inland watering-places in England. It is in the middle of a very broken and picturesque country on the borders of Kent and Sussex, part of the town being in the latter county. Its rise dates from 1606, when the chalybeate springs were first discovered by Lord North, and immediately became fashionable, Charles I.'s queen, Henrietta, patronising them. It is said that the Cavalier section of the visitors principally lodged at Southborough (houses being scarce at the Wells themselves), and the Puritans at Rusthall, on the other side. The latter party appear to have left the most abiding traces, in the names of Mount Ephraim, Mount Sion, Mount Pleasant, &c., and also in the permanent character of the watering-place, which to this day is noted for its quiet and subdued tone. The chief parade of the town is called the Pantiles, from its having been

paved with those materials soon after the date of Queen Anne, who gave a sum of money for that purpose; and here, and in High Street, are the principal shops and bazaars for Tunbridge ware, most of which, by the way, is made in the town of Tunbridge. The Pantiles was the fashionable walk at one time of British fashionables and celebrities, amongst them Dr. Johnson, Beau Nash, and Cumberland the dramatist, whose house still exists. At the bottom of the Pantiles are the Wells, the ministering angels of which are called "dippers." The church contains nothing of interest, save the fact that it is built in three parishes and two counties; the pulpit being in Speldhurst, the altar in Tunbridge, and the vestry in Frant (Sussex). Calverley Park and Mount Ephraim are also very pretty; but the favourite *near* excursion is to Rusthall common, 1m., which is most picturesquely diversified by masses of rock of the Hastings sand (Wealden) formation. The Toad Rock is particularly striking. There is a pretty church (St. Paul) on the common. Nearly 1m. S. (by the L.B.S.C. line) are the High Rocks (*admission 6d.*), a really beautiful bit of rock scenery, vulgarised by its proximity to a town. There are many beautiful residences in the outskirts of Tunbridge Wells, one of which, Dornden, was recently the seat of the Marquis of Lorne and H.R.H. Princess Louise.

Excursions :

- a. To Pembury, 3m. : and Tunbridge, 5m., by road.
- b. To Speldhurst, 3m. ; and Penshurst, 6m. (p. 92) ; returning by Bidborough.
- c. Groombridge, 3½m. (*station L.B.S.C.*), a very pretty village on the borders of the county, which is here washed by the Medway in its early career. Here is Groombridge Place, an old manor house, 1660, which succeeded a previous one, in which the Duke of Orleans was kept as a prisoner for twenty-five years after the battle of Agincourt. From hence it is a lovely walk by Broadwater wood to Eridge Green. Here are the Eridge Rocks, far more beautiful than the High Rocks. Nearly 2m. S.W. are Harrison's and Penn's Rocks, all of which are worth visiting. (*There is a station, L.B.S.C., at Eridge, from which a return may be made to the Wells.*) Or the excursion can be prolonged across

Eridge Park, the noble seat of the Marquis of Abergavenny, whose family (that of Nevill) has held Eridge Castle for over five hundred years. The park, which is open to the public, is full of woodland scenery of high character, and the rides and drives are said to be 70m. long. There is a very extensive view from a prospect tower on Saxonbury Hill, the site of an ancient camp. On the E. side of the park is Frant, which has a pretty church, built in 1867 by the Marquis; also a wide view from Frant Green. (*There is a station at Frant on the Hastings line, S.E.R.*)

- d. To Bayham Abbey, 6m., and Lamberhurst, 7½m. The Abbey (Marchioness of Camden) is situated on the banks of the Teise (a stream which joins the Beult near Marden), and was originally surrounded by it. It was founded for Præmonstratensian Canons by Ralph de Dene, who removed it hither from Otham in Sussex, and much of the ruins still remain, consisting of the church, and supplementary monastic buildings. The former is Early English, and is remarkable, like all the churches of this order, for its length, narrowness, and simplicity, yet beauty of detail. The ruins are very well kept, and the modern Elizabethan house was excellently restored in 1870 by *Brandon*. (*Admission to the ruins Tuesdays and Fridays.*) This district is interesting as having been formerly a busy one, when the iron manufacture (from charcoal) was carried on in Sussex. 1m. lower down the Teise is Gloucester Furnace, where the balustrade round St. Paul's was cast. 1m. farther is the village of Lamberhurst, seated on high ground, from which are most extensive views. Here are Court Lodge (W. C. Morland) and Scotney Castle (E. Hussey), once a seat of Chicheley, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1418, of which a machicolated round tower remains. The present modern house is by *Salvin*. The return to Tunbridge Wells may be made through a very pretty country by Pembury Green.

Railway Excursions.**IX. REDHILL TO EDENBRIDGE, PENSHURST, AND
TUNBRIDGE.**

Previous to the construction of the direct S.E.R. to Dover through Sevenoaks, the main line used to be identical with the present route *viâ* Redhill. From London this portion of the S.E.R. runs side by side with the L.B.S.C. past Croydon and Merstham, but at REDHILL STATION the two lines diverge, the S.E.R. turning off to the E., and passing the stations of CATERHAM JUNCTION and GODSTONE, and entering the county of Kent about 1m. from

33 EDENBRIDGE STATION. The little town (scarcely more than a village) is $\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. on the high road from Westerham to Uckfield. Beyond the Perpendicular church, which has a brass and monument to two members of the Selyard family (sixteenth century), there is little to see. The small stream of the Eden is crossed here. The tourist should walk from here to Penshurst, $\frac{5}{2}$ m. through a very charming country. $\frac{2}{4}$ m. on rt. bank of the Eden is Hever, famous for its old castellated manor house, and its historical associations with Henry VIII. It is all of the date of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, consisting of a quadrangle, in the S. front of which is the gatehouse with two portcullises, the hall, wooden stables, and the rooms called after Anne Boleyn and Anne of Cleves, the latter of whom is said to have died here. An older castle was built here by Sir W. Hevre, who sold it to Sir Geoffrey Boleyn, a tradesman and Lord Mayor (Henry VI.). He it was that erected the present house, together with his grandson, Sir Thomas, father of Anne Boleyn, who passed her early days here. Here it was that Henry VIII. used to ride over to court her, and the Kent roads being bad in those days, he used frequently to stick in the mud, until help came from the castle. After Sir Thomas Boleyn's death the king gave Hever to Anne of Cleves, and it afterwards passed to the Waldegraves, and by purchase to the Waldos, the present owners. Hever church, conspicuous for its graceful spire, is Decorated and Perpendicular, and contains (in the Boleyn chapel) the altar-tomb and brass of Sir Thomas; brasses

to Margaret Cheyne and W. Todde, and a monument to John de Cobham, 1399.

1½m. from Hever is Chiddingstone, an old-world village, with a pretty church, and park, belonging to the Streatfield family, whose monuments, of iron, are to be seen in the church, probably made in the Sussex ironworks, which were of great importance in former days. Close to the village is a block of sandstone, called the Chidingstone, said to have been a place of judgment in old times. 2m. farther E., close to the junction of the Eden with the Medway, is the pretty village of Penshurst (*Inn: Leicester Arms, 2m. from PENS Hurst Station*), one of the favourite pilgrimages for Kentish visitors. Those who walk from the station to the park should enter the latter by a gate and footpath opposite Redleaf, at the top of the hill, and thus gain a most beautiful view of the place. From the village the entrance is through the churchyard, at the N.W. corner of which a path enters the park immediately opposite the west front. (*Admission nominally on Mondays and Saturdays, but practically it is shown every day except Sunday.*) Penshurst Place (Lord de L'Isle) was originally the seat of Sir Stephen de Penchester (Edward I.), from whom it afterwards passed to Sir John de Pulteney, the Bohuns, and the Fanes, and in Edward VI.'s reign to Sir William Sidney, the first of the noble line which has made Penshurst famous. The principal members of the family, after Sir William, were Sir H. Sidney, Lord Chief Justice of Ireland, whose son was the celebrated Sir Philip Sidney (born 1554), the hero of the battle of Zutphen; Sir Robert Sidney, created Viscount Lisle and Earl of Leicester. The second earl was the father of Dorothy Sidney (the Sacharissa of Waller), and of Algernon Sidney, beheaded 1683 on Tower Hill. After the seventh earl the estate passed, by marriage, to the Shelleys, one of whom was created Lord de L'Isle. The entrance to the Place is in the N. front, through a gateway of Edward VI.'s time. From the courtyard the visitor enters the great hall, the most interesting, because the most perfectly preserved of the old portion of the house. It is a very fine and lofty room, with the original open timber roof, and large windows with the flowing tracery known as "Kentish." In the centre is the fireplace, the smoke from which escaped by the louvres in the roof above. There are also the original oak tables,

and at the E. end the minstrels' gallery, with an interesting wainscot screen. The walls are adorned with armour of different dates, amongst which is Sir P. Sidney's two-handed sword. Not many rooms are shown; they include the ballroom of Queen Anne's time (at present being restored); pages' room, with portraits; Queen Elizabeth's room, so called because much of the furniture was given by her; the tapestry room; the gallery. All these contain, more or less, portraits of the various members of the Sidney family, the two of the greatest interest being those of Algernon and Dorothea. The portraits are chiefly by Vandyck, Kneller, and Lely. The china closet has a small collection of china, principally Chinese and Japanese. Penshurst Park is full of beautiful woodland scenery. There is a fine avenue leading towards Leigh, and Sacharissa's Walk was made classic by Waller. The church (close to the house) has been restored by *Scott*, and contains the chantry of the Sidney family, with their monuments; as also one of Sir Stephen de Penchester, the original owner of the place; and brasses to Paul Iden (1514); and (modern) to the first Lord Hardinge. Algernon Sidney is said to have been buried here after his execution. The churchyard is entered underneath a curious old timber house, of the fifteenth century, belonging to a guild of the church, and there is an inscription on the wooden gateway. 1m. S. of Penshurst is South Park (Viscount Hardinge). The late Governor-General of India is buried at Fordcombe Green church, 1m. farther S. Between Penshurst and the railway station is Redleaf (F. C. Hill), which formerly had a fine collection of pictures; and in the immediate neighbourhood are Swaylands (E. Cropper), and Oakfield (Hon. C. Lane Fox). In the village is Darke's cricket-bat and ball manufactory. The tourist is recommended to walk from Penshurst to Tunbridge by Bidborough (nearly 5m.) for the sake of the beautiful views, the road running most of the way on the ridge of a hill. It is especially pretty at Bidborough, extending S. over Speldhurst and the environs of Tunbridge Wells. Speldhurst church (restored 1871) is said to have been built by a Duke of Orleans, while a prisoner after Agincourt at Groombridge Place. The country in this neighbourhood abounds in steep hills and narrow valleys. Between Bidborough and Tunbridge are Boundes Park (W. J. Blackburne-Maze), formerly

given by Henry VIII. to Sir T. More, who here received Erasmus as his guest; near this the road joins that to Southborough and Tunbridge Wells, and soon passes Mabledon (J. Deacon). By rail from PENSURST STATION is passed (l.) the village of Leigh, close to which is the fine mansion of Hall Place (S. Morley, M.P.), rebuilt.

TUNBRIDGE JUNCTION *with main line to Dover and Hastings Branch Railways* (p. 13).

Railway Excursions.

X. PADDOCK WOOD TO WATERINGBURY AND MAIDSTONE (S.E.R.).

By this branch the S.E.R. secures a second approach from London to Maidstone. The distance is 9½m. The district through which the railway runs is watered by the Medway, and is one of the most fertile and beautiful in Kent, especially prolific in hops and fruit. The river is crossed a little before reaching

3 YALDING STATION. The village, ½m. rt., is at the confluence of the Beult and Medway. The geologist will be interested in the church pavement, which is composed of a fossiliferous stone like the Bethersden marble. The village of Hunton (1½m. E.) is one of the most abundant in hops in the county. Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, of Gennings Park, alone has 280 acres of hop-gardens. From Yalding the line runs parallel with the river, which soon enters a defile in the hills and turns to rt. On the l. is Nettlestead, the church of which is remarkable for its stained glass, principally of Henry VI.'s reign. The E. window is believed to represent à Becket's return to Canterbury after his exile abroad. Nettlestead Place was the residence of the Pimpe family (Edward I.). 1m. W. is East Peckham and Roydon Hall (Mrs. Cooke).

5 WATERINGBURY STATION. The village stands ½m. N. on the high ground between Mereworth and Maidstone, commanding very lovely views. The church is Perpendicular, and in the churchyard is buried Sir Oliver Style, whose family owned Wateringbury Place from the time of James. It was afterwards sold to the present owners, the Lucas family. A curious remnant of antiquity is preserved at Wateringbury, called "the dumb bors-

holder of Chart," which was made of wood and iron, and appeared to represent some legal standing or claim over part of the parish, whence derived is unknown, but it was probably of Saxon, or even earlier date. At Teston the river is crossed by a bridge of seven arches, and the valley is full of beauty. Overlooking the village (l.) is Barham Court (Roger Leigh), which is said to have belonged to Reginald Fitz-Urse, one of the knights who murdered à Becket (p. 74), and who, on his flight from the kingdom, gave it to his relative, Robert de Berham, from whom it has passed into many hands. On the right bank of the Medway is West Farleigh, the church of which has a tomb, believed to be that of a De Bruyere. On the opposite side of the river is Barming, a picturesque Kentish village, enshrined in hop-gardens. Close to railway is Barnjet (J. Whitehead), and on the heath at the back of the hill is the Kent Lunatic Asylum.

8 EAST FARLEIGH STATION. Here is another typical Kentish view, in which the Decorated church and the picturesque bridge are conspicuous features. The church has a monument to one of the Colepepper family. A former grower of hops in this parish is said to have owned 70,000l. in hop-poles alone. The railway soon passes (rt.) the suburb of Tovil, with its paper mills, and reaches

9½ MAIDSTONE STATION. (*Junction with North Kent Railway, viâ Rochester and Gravesend, p. 60.*)

Railway Excursions.

XI. LONDON TO MAIDSTONE BY OTFORD AND WEST MALLING (L.C.D.R.).

From London, main route to Rochester (*see p. 24*).

17 SWANLEY JUNCTION, where the Sevenoaks and Maidstone line turns S., skirting the range of chalk hills for the whole distance. Passing through Westwood tunnel and crossing the Darent, the railway reaches

20 EYNESFORD STATION. The village is prettily situated a little to left at the bottom of a chalk valley, embowered in trees. Like many of the villages on the Darent and Cray, it possesses paper mills. The Early English church is cruciform, and has a good Norman W. door and an apse. The castle of the Eynesfords (Edward I.),

and afterwards of the Criols, has nearly disappeared, and only a few ruined walls remain. 1m. farther down the valley is Farningham (*Inn: Lion*), the church of which (Early English) has a Perpendicular carved font, and brasses to Sir William Gysborne, 1451; Alice Tailen, 1514; William Petham, 1517; J. Sybyll, 1519; and H. Firebrace, 1601. In this parish is the Home for Little Boys, erected 1870, for three hundred inmates. (*The main line (L.C.D.R.) can be rejoined at Farningham Road station, 2m. N.*) On rt. of Eynesford station is Lullingstone village and park (Sir P. H. Dyke). The church (Early English) is interesting for its monuments, viz. Sir Percival Hart, 1580; Sir G. Hart and wife, 1587; Sir J. Peche, Constable of Dover (Henry VIII.); and brasses to Sir W. Peche, 1487; John de Pokesh, 1361; Alice Baldwin, 1533, and others. There is also a good screen and some stained glass. Near the church is Lullingstone Castle, with the park stretching up the hill above the village. It was the seat of the Peches and Harts, and ultimately of the Dykes. The house is principally of Jacobæan date. *The park is open to the public.* At the S.E. corner, on the bank of the Darent, is a farmhouse on the site of old Lullingstone or Shoreham Castle.

22 SHOREHAM STATION. A large village, with more paper mills. Shoreham Place (H. F. Mildmay) has a good collection of paintings, principally of the Dutch school. This is the native place of Lieut. Cameron, the African explorer.

24 OTFORD STATION. (*Junction with Sevenoaks branch.*) The village of Otford is on rt., some half-mile back from the station. Although now a small place, it was famous for being one of the most favourite of the sixteen palaces possessed by the Archbishops of Canterbury. The ruins of this palace, which was rebuilt by Archbishop Warham (Henry VIII.), are near the church, consisting of a tower and a little bit of cloister. St. Thomas's well is attributed to the magic virtues of Archbishop à Becket's staff. The manor was given up to the Crown by Cranmer, and Otford has since fallen into decay. The church (restored by *Street*, 1862) has an ambitious monument to one of the Polhill family. The railway now runs due E. (Sevenoaks visible on rt.) to

26 KEMSING STATION. The village on the hillside (l.) has a well and a church, both dedicated to St. Edith. The church has a brass to Thomas de Hop, 1320. The

road seen on the crest of the hill, and running along the edge, is an old pilgrims' road, by which the shrine of Canterbury was approached. Rt. of station (1m.) is Seal, with rather a large aisled church, which has brasses to Sir William de Bryene, 1395 (a curious example of helmet), and the Tybold family (sixteenth century), together with a monument to J. Theobald, 1577, whose descendants of two generations amounted to 119. Adjoining the village is Wildernesse (Marquess of Camden). Between Kemsing and Wrotham (rt.) is Ightham church, which has some monuments to the Selbys, and an effigy of Sir Thomas Cawne, 1374. The scenery of Ightham Common is wild and picturesque, and on the highest portion, Oldberry Hill, is a large Brito-Roman camp, covering 127 acres. Under the hillside (l.) is the village of Wrotham, some little distance from

29 WROTHAM STATION. Here too was an early palace of the archbishops, granted to the see by Athelstane, though scarce a trace is left of it. The church has a number of brasses, viz.: T. Nyzell, 1498; John Burgoyne, 1500; Thomas Peckham and wife, 1512; Reynold Peckham (Henry VIII.); Wm. Clerke, 1611, &c. The high road from London to Tunbridge passes through Wrotham, intersecting on the brow of the hill (from whence there is a very fine view) the Pilgrims' road to Canterbury. The railway now runs through a very interesting bit of country. L. is the pretty village of Addington, the church of which has brasses to Wm. Snayth and wife, 1409, and some incised slabs. Addington appears to have been connected with Kits Coity house on the chalk hills to the E., beyond Aylesford, and to have formed part of that curious system of ancient sepulchral rites. A regular avenue of monoliths or blocks of stone is said to have existed between this village and Kits Coity house, and there are sufficient remains to give probability to the tradition. There are two stone circles in Addington Park (J. W. Stratford); another circle, with a small cromlech, at Coldrum farm; and several large stones, either detached or lying in masses between Ryarsh and the top of the hill at Poundgate woods. Addington church, too, itself is placed on a hillock, which Mr. Wright believed to be artificial, and to contain, probably, traces of interment. Offham church (rt. of railway) is Norman, with a little stained glass. On Offham Green (half a

mile S.) is a remnant of the old quintain, or tilting game, so common in Elizabethan days.

34 WEST MALLING STATION. The village, well built and pleasant, is rt., and contains the remains of the Benedictine nunnery, founded 1090 by Bishop Gundulf, of Rochester. The principal points are the W. front of the church (Norman), which strongly resembles in its architectural features the W. front of Rochester Cathedral, and points to the same bishop as the builder of both. Attached to the great gateway is a chapel, which has been restored. In the residence (Mrs. Akers), with which the ruins are incorporated, are the Early English cloisters and the kitchen. At St. Leonard's, S. of the abbey, is a square tower, which might probably have been intended for a watch-tower or treasure house for muniments, &c. West Malling church is partly Norman, and has brasses to W. Millys, 1497, W. Skott, and E. Perepoynt, sixteenth century. L. of railway are Leybourne church and Bradbourne Park (Misses Twysden), where this family (a branch of Sir Roger Twysden, of Peckham) has been settled for generations. There are several paper mills here. Farther back towards the hills is Leybourne Grange (Sir Henry James Hawley), which has large racing paddocks. Leybourne church was founded by Sir Roger de Leybourne, a celebrated crusader, whose heart, in a lead box, was found in a tabernacle contained in a niche. Near the church is a gateway, the remains of the De Leybournes' castle. More under the hills are the churches of Ryarsh (Norman), which has a piscina engraved in Parker's 'Glossary,' and Birling, in which several of the Earls of Abergavenny are buried. The farmhouse of Birling Place was the old residence of this family, but has been superseded by the modern Birling Manor (Hon. R. P. Neville).

37 BARMING STATION. The village is more easily reached from West Malling, from which it is only 1m. The church contains some exceedingly good stained glass, and brasses to T. Selby and wife, 1479, and R. Adams, 1522. From this comparatively high ground there are very fine views eastward over Aylesford, the valley of the Medway, and the range of chalk hills beyond. On rt. the railway is skirted for a considerable distance by the East Malling woods, which extend S. nearly to Barming Heath. From hence the railway runs down a consider-

able decline, crossing over the S.E.R., and then the Medway, by a bridge, used also for foot passengers, to

39½ MAIDSTONE STATION. (*Refreshm. rooms. Fares: 8s., 5s. 6d., 3s. 3d. Hotels: Mitre, Bell, Star. Station S.E.R., p. 60.*)

Railway Excursions.

XII. ASHFORD TO APPLIEDORE AND RYE (S.E.R.).

ASHFORD JUNCTION. (54½m. from London. *Refreshm. rooms. Ashford is described at p. 16.*) The branch to Rye, Winchelsea, and Hastings leaves the main line to Dover, and the Canterbury and Margate branch on l., and runs due S. through the marsh country, passing (rt.) the village and church of Kingsnorth, on rising ground. The church has a brass to Sir W. Parker, 1421. There are several old moated houses in the parish, probably on account of the wet character of the district.

71 HAM STREET STATION, before coming to which (rt.) is the little church of Orleston. L., on the line of the grand military canal that runs between Hythe and Rye, are three churches: (a) Ruckinge, which has a Norman doorway with mouldings. Bishop Porteous was rector here, 1764. (b) Bilsington, 1m. farther on. A Priory existed here in Henry III.'s time, founded by John Mansell, who was so celebrated for his hospitality, that on one occasion, when he feasted some royal personages, the first course is said to have consisted of seven hundred dishes. The neighbouring farmhouse contains some of the materials of the Priory. (c) Bonnington, beyond which (1½m.) is Hurst, at the foot of the high ground running westward from Folkestone and Hythe. Hurst house was in Jacobite times a sure refuge for the disaffected, and subsequently for smugglers, in which the whole of this district has abounded from time immemorial. Even at the present day, many a stirring story may be heard amongst the villagers, most of whom were more or less implicated in the smuggling trade. After leaving Ham Street (rt.) are the churches of Wareham (near which the line crosses the military canal) and Kenardington. The former has a Perpendicular tower, and some good old stained glass; and close to the latter are some British earthworks. Some 3m. farther inland is

Woodchurch, which also has stained glass, a brass to Nichol de Gore (fourteenth century), and the monument of Simon de Woodchurch (*temp.* Edward I.).

74 APPLEDORE STATION. The village of Appledore is prettily situated (about 1½m. W.) on rising ground, just above the military canal, which passes close to the church. A very old and extensive forest, called Andred's Wood, stretched from here for a considerable distance, and at that time the Rother was tidal up to that point, whereas it now flows to the S. of Appledore. The church has a Norman tower and several brasses, together with a monument (in a S. chapel) to the Hornes, who lived at Horne Place (1m. N.), where the old Decorated chapel still exists, forming part of a modern house. In the neighbourhood of Appledore are three churches: (a) Ebony chapel (nearly 2m.), where formerly a much larger church was built by the Canterbury monks. (b) Stone church (restored 1874) (2m. S.), in the vicarage garden of which is an old Roman altar. (c) Wittersham (farther W.). These all lie in the Isle of Oxney (a more or less level district between two branches of the Rother. On l. of railway are Snargate (a fine tower to the church) and Brenzet, uninteresting in every way, except to the dwellers in these fenny acres. Many of the villages, in wet weather, are unapproachable, except by boat, and this is specially applicable to East Guildford church, near Rye. Just before entering the Guildford level, the boundary line is crossed between the counties of Kent and Sussex. Rt., on a hill, is the church of Playden (Early English), which contains a curious monument in the shape of a slab of mountain limestone, to a Walloon brewer who settled in this district. Crossing the Rother by a swing bridge, the railway reaches

81 RYE STATION. (*Fares from London*: 15s., 10s. 6d., 6s. 6d. *Pop.* 3865. *Hotels*: George, Cinque Port Arms. *Distances*: Ashford, 26½m.; Winchelsea, 3m.; Appledore, 7m.; Dungeness, 9m.; Lydd, 9m.; New Romney, 12m.; Hythe, 21m.) Rye is really in Sussex, but claims a brief description here. It was one of the old towns annexed to the Cinque Ports, though, like Sandwich and Winchelsea, the sea has deserted it since its prosperous days. The harbour (to which there is a railway) is some 2m. off, and is formed by the Rother, Brede, and Tillingham rivers. Like Sandwich, a good many refugees settled

here after the edict of Nantes, and have probably contributed to the foreign air of the town, which is picturesquely situated on l. of the railway. It once had several gates, but only one, the Landgate, remains, on the London road, and is now transposed into an Albert memorial. The Ypres tower, now the police station, was built by William de Ypres, in the reign of Stephen. The church is really fine, and said to be the largest parish church in England. It is cruciform, and consists of nave, chancel with chapels, transepts, and central tower, mostly of Norman date. In the transepts are Norman arcades, with mouldings. The E. window is Perpendicular. The N. chapel is that of St. Clare, and the S. that of St. Nicholas, to whom the church is dedicated. The church contains a mahogany altar table, traditionally said to have been made out of one of the Armada ships, a brass to a Mr. Hamon, six times mayor, and a clock given by Queen Elizabeth (who once visited Rye), and said to be the oldest clock actually going in England. The Carmelites had a chapel, of which the remains still exist, S. of the churchyard.

(C)—STEAMBOAT EXCURSION.

XIII. LONDON TO GREENWICH, GRAVESEND, MARGATE, AND RAMSGATE.

Steamers every day in the summer from London Bridge to Margate in 6h., to Ramsgate 7h. ; to Gravesend, 2½h., the boats are more frequent. As nearly all the places passed during the voyage will be found described in the railway routes, it will be sufficient to mention the objects seen on rt. or l., viz. on the Kent or the Essex shores.

On quitting London Bridge, the tourist passes (l.) the Custom House, the Tower, St. Katharine's and London Docks, and (rt.) the densely populated districts of Bermondsey and Rotherhithe. This portion of the river is called the Upper and Lower Pools, and is filled with tier upon tier of shipping. Crossing the line of the Thames Tunnel, pass (rt.) Cuckold's Point and enter Limehouse Reach. (Rt.) the Commercial Docks, (l.) West India Docks and Millwall, with its ironworks and shipbuilding yards. About this part (opposite to the Isle of Dogs) the county of Kent is entered. The river takes a sweep round Deptford Reach. Rt. is DEPTFORD, where the little river Ravensbourne joins the Thames. Deptford was made a royal dockyard by Henry VIII., but its glory is now departed, as the yard has been closed for some years. The victualling yard however still exists, and is of great importance, for large numbers of cattle are landed and slaughtered weekly, while nearly all the biscuits used in the navy are baked here. Sayes Court, the residence of John Evelyn, author of 'Sylva,' formerly occupied the site of the yard, and Peter the Great resided at it while learning the trade of a shipwright. Rt. GREENWICH now comes into sight, with its noble frontage of the Hospital, which has undergone so many changes in its history. In Henry VI.'s reign, Duke Humphrey first built a residence here, afterwards enlarged by

Edward IV. In it Henry VIII., Mary, and Elizabeth were born, and Edward VI. died. James I. commenced the new building, but only partly finished the Queen's house, which was afterwards completed by Inigo Jones; but Charles II. built a good portion of the palace, which was afterwards, in accordance with the wishes of Queen Mary, turned into a hospital 1705, after the battle of La Hogue. The chief points of interest, as viewed from the river, are the splendid terrace of 860 feet, and the four noble blocks of buildings that constitute the bulk of the Hospital, viz. N.W. block, King Charles; N.E., Queen Anne (both these face the river); S.W., King William; S.E., Queen Mary. In the middle is the great square, showing at the sides the hall and chapel with their colonnades. At the back is the Queen's house (built by Anne of Denmark and Henrietta Maria), and now used for the Marine School. In 1865 Greenwich Hospital was diverted from its original intention during the Gladstone ministry; the pensioners were sent away, and the greater part of the building appropriated for the Royal Naval College. On landing, in front of the N.W. block is an obelisk of red granite to Lieutenant Bellot, the Arctic navigator, and in the centre of the square is a statue of George II. by *Rysbrach*. In the S.W. block (King William's, built by Sir C. Wren) is the celebrated Painted Hall (*admission free daily from 9 to 6*), famous for its collection of naval pictures, an epitome of the principal engagements in English history. The ceiling, by Sir James Thornhill, who was at work at it for nearly twenty years, represents William and Mary, surrounded by virtues and other allegorical designs. Nelson's body lay in state here for three days before his burial. It is unnecessary to specify the paintings, as many of them are named, and catalogues can be had. In the opposite block (Queen Mary's) is the chapel, which has been twice restored, and contains an altarpiece by *West*, and busts of Sir T. Hardy and Sir R. Keats (by *Chantrey*). Lower down, on the same side of the square, is the Museum, which has an interesting collection of naval models and curiosities. The remainder of the Hospital is not now open to the public. The Royal Naval College has been established for giving courses of instruction to officers of the navy and the marines; and the whole building, with the exception of the portions described, is given up to

he requirements of the College. The Marine School at the back is divided into three sections, viz. for sons of officers, sons of seamen or marines, daughters of the same, altogether comprising about one thousand children, who are fed, clothed, and educated here. Immediately behind the Hospital rises up the wood-covered hill of Greenwich Park, capped by the Royal Observatory. The time-honoured old park, in which generations of Londoners have disported themselves, was laid out originally by Le Nôtre in Charles II.'s reign, the Observatory being built by the same king, who appointed Flamsteed as the first Astronomer Royal, an office now held by Sir George Airy. (*No admission except by special application.*) This is the head-quarters for all the astronomical and meteorological observations of the nation, upon which science, and especially naval science, is so greatly dependent. The force and direction of the wind, the quantity of the rain are measured here, and in the E. turret is the celebrated time ball, which gives Greenwich time to all the known world. The view from Greenwich hill is so well known, that it is almost superfluous to mention it. It extends over miles and miles of the reaches of the Thames and the opposite Essex shores, while to the W. it embraces a large portion of London, and if the day be very clear, is said to extend as far as Windsor. Turner's celebrated painting was taken from this spot. At the S. side of the park, doors lead on to Blackheath common (p. 63). The town of Greenwich itself does not contain very much of interest, but is principally known in connection with its whitebait dinners. (*Hotels: Ship, Trafalgar, Crown and Sceptre, with hosts of minor accommodation. Railway stations of the S.E.R. direct to Cannon Street, and a branch line to the N. Kent Railway with a station at Maze Hill. Tramways to Westminster and Blackfriars bridges.*) The only object of interest besides the Hospital is the Norfolk College, a picturesque building, a little lower down the river, founded by the Earl of Northampton 1603, for twenty-two poor people. He himself is buried in the chapel.

At the end of Blackwall Reach (l.) is the City canal, cutting across the neck of the Isle of Dogs, and giving access to the East and West India Docks. At BLACKWALL, also a famous place for fish dinners (*Hotels: Lov-grave's, West India Dock Tavern*), is the terminus of the Fenchurch

Street line (G.E.R.), and here the Lea river flows into the Thames, forming the boundary between Middlesex and Essex. Passing through Bugsby's Reach and Woolwich Reach, with (rt.) the low chalk hills of Charlton, the steamer calls at WOOLWICH Dockyard (now closed), and Woolwich Arsenal (p. 66). At the back of the town, on high ground, is the Common, with the barracks, Repository, the Royal Military Academy, and the Herbert Hospital, with Shooter's Hill rising up behind. A ferry connects Woolwich with North Woolwich station (G.E.R.) and the North Woolwich Gardens. Rt. are Plumstead Marshes, where the trials of big guns are carried on; and opposite (l.) is the mouth of the Roding river, some little way up which is Barking. Running over the Barking Level is the Tilbury and Southend line of the G.E.R. The outfall and pumping works of the North Main Drainage of London are on this Essex side, and those of the South Main Drainage at Crossness, a little farther down (rt.), not far from the Erith marshes and powder magazine, which exploded in 1864. L. are the Dagenham marshes, defended from the river by large embankments, constructed by Captain Perry, 1715. At different times breaches have been made during very high tides, and an immense acreage laid under water. L. Rainham creek, with Rainham village a little way up. At the end of Erith Reach (rt.) is ERITH village and church (*station on N.K.R.*). The tower, before reaching Erith, is that of Belvidere, once the seat of Sir Culling Eardley, and famous for its pictures, but now the Asylum for the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society. Rt. Dartford creek, where the river Darent flows in; and on the Essex side is PURFLEET (*station G.E.R.*), with a number of singular excavations in the chalk. Here is a large number of Government powder magazines. At the end of the Long Reach (rt.), on a hill, is Stone church (p. 54), of great interest; and close by is GREENHITHE (p. 54), a pretty village, with a large trade in grey chalk (*station N.K.R.*). The 'Arethusa' and 'Chichester' training ships lie off here. Opposite is West Thurrock, and a little farther on Gray's Thurrock. Rt. NORTH-FLEET (*station*), where also the chalk is largely worked. The docks here are excavated from out of it, as are also the Rosherville Gardens, which are formed out of deserted chalk quarries. On the hill above is Huggins' College,

founded by John Huggins for decayed tradesmen. Rt. GRAVESEND (p. 55). (*Station N.K.R. Pop. 27,493. Hotels: Clarendon, Clifton. Ferry across the river to Tilbury station, G.E.R., en route for Fenchurch Street or Southend.*) This is the port where outward-bound vessels take their pilots, and in many cases their passengers. Tilbury Fort, on the Essex side, was erected at the time of the panic about the Armada (Henry VIII.), but it was subsequently strengthened, so as to become the principal defence of the river passage. Close to Gravesend is Milton church, and farther on, in the marshes, is Higham. In addition to Tilbury Fort, the river is defended by the forts of East Tilbury, Shorne, and New Tavern.

The steamer now enters the Lower Hope, the river making a considerable detour to the N. L. the spire of Stanford-le-Hope; and farther on is Thames haven, where a branch railway conveys cattle and fish to London, saving the transit up the river. L. Canvey island, a large flat area, surrounded by embankments. On the Chapman sands is a beacon light. Rt. the Isle of Grain, bounded E. by the estuary of the Medway. L. the village and church of Leigh, near which point an imaginary line across the river defines the boundary of the Lord Mayor's jurisdiction. The exact spots are marked by the Crow stone on the Essex side, and the London stone on the Kent. L. Southend, with its pier $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. long, terminated by a lighthouse. Rt. the mouth of the Medway, with Sheerness harbour and town, on the most northern point of the Isle of Sheppey (p. 47). On the opposite Essex coast is Shoeburyness, where artillery experiments are carried on, and the volunteer artillery meeting annually held. Midway in the mouth of the Thames is the Nore light, after passing which the steamer fairly enters the German Ocean, keeping to the S., however, and approaching to the Kentish coast, the low cliffs of Sheppey, the church towers of Warden and Minster, and the estuary of the Swale, by the junction of which with the Medway Sheppey becomes an island. Farther E. is the fishing town of Whitstable (p. 42), so celebrated for its oysters, succeeded by the watering-place of Herne Bay. The twin towers of the Reculvers (the Roman Regulbium) now become visible, and in consequence of the lowness of the cliffs, are very conspicuous features. To these follow the village of

Birchington, the high towers of Quex behind it, and the new watering-place of Westgate-on-Sea. The chalk cliffs increase in height and abruptness of outline as the steamer approaches MARGATE (p. 44), with its long landing stage. From hence the coast scenery rapidly increases in beauty, the cliffs rising in height all the way to the North Foreland. Turning due S. at this point, the snug little watering-place of BROADSTAIRS is passed, with its sands nestling under the chalk, and the steamer soon after enters the harbour of RAMSGATE (p. 46).

(D)—ROAD EXCURSIONS.

XIV. LONDON TO KESTON, FARNBOROUGH, WESTERHAM, EDENBRIDGE, AND GROOMBRIDGE.

By this route the pedestrian will explore the western portion, and one of the most lovely, of the county; and to avoid as much as possible the outskirts of London it is advisable to take the rail (S.E.R. or L.C.D.R.), to BECKENHAM, (p. 24), and commence the walk from thence. 3m. Langley Park; charming views over Shortlands, and Bromley in the distance. Pickhurst was the residence of Hallam the historian (died 1859). Near this a divergence of 1m. (rt.) should be made to Wickham Breaux, or West Wickham, a pretty village, with the church crowning a hill. Wickham Court (Colonel Lennard) adjoins it, an old manor house of Henry VII.'s reign, modernised. In the interior is a portrait of Sir Walter Raleigh. This road soon after enters Surrey, near Addington, where the Archbishop of Canterbury has his palace. HAYES (nearly 4m. from Beckenham) is a snug little village on the outskirts of Hayes Common, one of the brightest and prettiest bits of open scenery near London, commanding fine views of the Crystal Palace. The church (Early English) was restored by *Scott*, 1862, and contains brasses to John Andrew, J. Osteler, and J. Heygge (fifteenth and sixteenth centuries), former rectors. There are also the banners used at the Earl of Chatham's funeral. Hayes Place (Edward Wilson) is close to the church, and has beautiful gardens. It formerly belonged to the Harrisons, and was bought by the Earl of Chatham, who built the present house, and died here. William Pitt likewise was born here, 1759. Cross the common, at the end of which a field-path (l.) will lead on to Keston Common (1½m. from Hayes), more broken and diversified than Hayes, and of a more picturesque character. Here are some ponds and reservoirs, which give rise to the Ravens-

bourne, which flows past Bromley and Blackheath, and into the Thames near Deptford. The highest point of the hill (from which there is a glorious view) is known as Cæsar's Camp, believed to be the site of a Brito-Roman town called Noviomagus. The area of the camp, of which only some of the S. walls remain, is about one hundred acres; but for a considerable distance round Roman coins and remains have been discovered, together with the foundations of buildings. These last have been particularly abundant as the S. road to Westerham leaves the common. 1½m. across the common is FARNBOROUGH, on the way to which is Holwood (R. Alexander), at one time the favourite residence of Pitt, though the present house was built after his time. A seat at the foot of a tree in Holwood Park points to the place where Pitt and Wilberforce used to sit to discuss the slavery question, which led to the Abolition Bill, 1788. Farnborough is a pleasant village, lying on a hill looking S., and on the coach-road to Sevenoaks. ¼m. S. is High Elms (Sir J. Lubbock). Should the tourist desire, he can follow (a) the high road to the brow of the hill at Knockholt Pound, and then turn to the rt. by Knockholt Beeches and Brasted Hill, or else continue straight on through Chevening; or (b) through Down and Cudham to Brasted; or (c) direct to Westerham from Keston. All three roads are exceedingly pretty, and it is hard to say which is the pleasantest. (a) 1m. from Farnborough is Green Street Green, a hamlet lying in a hollow, in the drift ground of which elephant and mammoth remains have been found. (*The Halstead station is 1m. E.*) Halstead (3m. from Farnborough) is a pretty Early English church, in the middle of Halstead Park (T. Burnaby Atkins). It has brasses to William Burys, 1444, with figures of a knight and greyhound, and to W. Petley and wife, 1528. At Knockholt Pound (1m. S. of Halstead) the main road descends the hill and joins the coach-road in the valley below at Dunton Green. 1m. rt. is the village of Knockholt, and the celebrated Knockholt beeches, conspicuous far and wide. This is one of the highest points of ground in Kent, and the view to the N. and S. is superb, taking in the whole country between Gravesend and Leith Hill in Surrey. Descend the chalk range through a beautifully wooded combe to CHEVENING, taking the footpath through Chevening Park (Earl Stanhope). This has

long been classic ground for the lovers of literature, for which the late Earl did so much. Years ago, too, Chevening was the spot in which the earliest experiments in stereotyping were carried on by Messrs. Tilloch, Foulis, and Wilson, at the invitation of the then Earl. The original manor of Chevening belonged to the family of that name. It afterwards came to the Lenards and the Dacres (Earls of Sussex), and by purchase to General Stanhope, who was created an earl for his military services. The house is by Inigo Jones, but has been greatly altered and modified. It contains a small collection of historical portraits by Kneller, Gainsborough, and Lely. The grounds (*open on Wednesdays—the park always*) are most enjoyable, and contain a good-sized lake. Immediately outside the park is the church (Perpendicular), in which are monuments and effigies to John Lennard and wife, 1590; Sampson Lennard and wife, 1615 (alabaster monument), with their three sons and five daughters; Robert Cranmer, 1619; tablet to the first Earl, who was buried in Westminster; Lady F. Stanhope, by Chantrey. (b) From Keston it is rather more than 1m. to Down, the church of which has brasses to T. Petley and wife; J. Manning and wife, 1543; Jacob Verzelini and wife, 1606. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. is Cudham, with the church on high ground; brass and monument to A. Waleys, 1503. From the top of Brasted Hill the same kind of extensive view is obtained as from Knockholt. At the bottom of the valley is Brasted, on the high road between Westerham and Sevenoaks, and on the Darent, which supplies water for several paper mills. The church contains monuments to Chief Justice Sir Robert Heath and wife, 1647, and to Dorothy Crowmer, 1613. Brasted Place (W. Tipping) was once occupied by the late Emperor Napoleon. Combe Banke (W. Spottiswoode) is opposite Sundridge, with its Early English church (restored). It contains the altar-tomb of John Isley and wife, 1484, a family which was largely implicated in Sir T. Wyatt's rebellion (*temp.* Queen Mary), and which from that time forth decayed and disappeared. There are also brasses to the same family; and in the churchyard is the tomb of Bishop Porteous, who planted the ash trees in it. Hill Park (between Brasted and Westerham) is the seat of Lord Norbury. (c) The direct road from Keston passes Aperfield Court, and at the brow

of the hill, leaving Tatsfield church (in Surrey) to the rt., descends directly on to WESTERHAM. (*Pop.* 2196. *Hotel: King's Arms. Omnibus to Sevenoaks and Caterham.*) A pretty little town, dependent more on the scenery around than on any intrinsic interest. The church (Perpendicular)—a fine view from the churchyard—contains brasses to Sir William Dyne, 1567; R. and T. Potter (sixteenth-century); William Middleton, with two wives and seven children; J. Christie, 1567, &c., together with monument and inscription to General Wolfe, of Quebec fame, who was born at Westerham 1727, and whose portrait is preserved at Squerries (Colonel Warde). Westerham was the native place also of Bishop Hoadley, the famous polemical divine, born 1676, and Fryth, who assisted Tyndale in the translation of the Bible, 1503. The boundary line of Kent and Surrey is passed on the Limpsfield road, about 1m. from Westerham.

The road to Edenbridge ascends the hill to the S., having on rt. Chart's Edge (W. C. J. Westfield), then over Westerham Common to Cookham Hill, whence the tourist obtains a magnificent view over the Weald country towards Edenbridge, Hever, Penshurst, Leigh, and Tunbridge. From the summit of the hill it is 2m. to EDENBRIDGE STATION (S.E.R.), from whence the town is another mile to the S. It is described at p. 91, with Hever and Penshurst. From Edenbridge it is a pretty walk of 4m. to near Cowden, where the road enters Sussex, thence by a cross-country road of 3m. S.E. to Ashurst. Ashurst Park (G. Field), and Stone Ness (A. C. Ramsden), whence it is 1½m. to GROOMBRIDGE (p. 89).

Road Excursions.

XV. LONDON TO TUNBRIDGE BY FARNINGHAM, WROTHAM, AND SHIPBORNE.

The most convenient stations from whence to begin this excursion are Eltham or Sidcup, on the loop line (N.K.R.) (p. 51), at both points the tourist being enabled at once to explore a pretty country. Between Sidcup and Footscray are—Ursula Lodge, an asylum for six unmarried ladies, who must be of the age of forty-five, and Frogna, a large red-brick mansion, the seat of Earl

Sidney, the Lord-Lieutenant of Kent. It was formerly the residence of Sir Philip Warwick, a great friend of the two Charleses, who was buried at Chislehurst.

2m. FOOTSCRAY, a pleasant little village on the Cray river. The church (French Norman) has effigies to Sir Simon Vaughan and wife (Edward III.), and brass for T. Myton, a former rector, 1489. 1m. l. is North Cray, and equidistant rt. St. Paul's Cray. On the hill above Footscray is Ruxley, which was formerly a distinct parish. The old church is now a barn, and contains some of the sedilia. The road now enters the chalk country, and runs over high ground, open and fresh. At 2½m. from Footscray the L.C.D.R. is crossed, close to Swanley Junction, where the branch to Sevenoaks and Maidstone is given off. 2½ miles farther is FARNINGHAM (*Inn: Lion*), a prettily situated village on the banks of the Darent. The church (Early English and Perpendicular) has several brasses, the principal being Sir William Gysborne, 1451, a former rector. The appellation of Sir, it should be remembered, in early times was frequently given to the clergy, and does not imply anything beyond our "Rev." Farningham is a good point whence to explore the neighbourhood of the Darent valley; N. Horton-Kirby, Sutton-at-Hone, and Darent (p. 26); S. Eynesford, Lullingstone, and Shoreham (p. 95). 3m. from Farningham (a little l. of road) is the church of Kingsdown, in a prettily wooded district. It contains some stained glass of fourteenth century. Farther S. (still to rt.) is the village of Stanstead. At 4½m. from Farningham the road divides, the one on rt. going to Wrotham and Mereworth, above Ightham. As the road approaches the brow of the hill there is a good view rt. over Sevenoaks and the vale of Darent, l. along the line of the railway to Maidstone over Wrotham, Addington, West Malling, with the vale of the Medway in the distance. Opposite are Seal, Ightham, and Offham, with a richly wooded country at the back. Just under the ridge the Pilgrim's road is crossed, a narrow track that skirts the whole length of the chalk range, and formed the communication between Kent, Surrey, and Hampshire to Canterbury shrine.

The road now descends into the valley, leaving (rt.) St. Clere, and at 7m. crosses L.C.D.R. to IGHTHAM. The tourist should diverge a little to the rt. to see Oldbury

camp. The names of Stone Street, Street Hill, &c., in the neighbourhood betoken the occupation of this district by a Roman settlement, and remains of Roman buildings with statues have been found at Allen's farm, about 2m. S.E. The tourist should also visit Plaxtole, 2m. S. (a little rt. of the road), sheltered from the E. by the Hurst woods, which together with the Mereworth woods form a very charming bit of forest scenery. At the skirt of the woods (1m. E. of Plaxtole) is Old Shore (or Sore) farm, the old mansion house of the Colepeppers (Edward III.). It is a modernised farmhouse, but is well worthy of a visit. In plan it is oblong, with projections running out at the N.W. and N.E. angles, the upper story of the N.E. having been the chapel. The main portion of the building has a vaulted chamber on the ground floor, and the windows throughout were evidently constructed for defence. Between Plaxtole and Shipborne is Fairlawn (E. Cazalet), once the residence of Harry Vane, who was beheaded in 1662, and who is reputed to walk amidst the yew trees in the grounds with his head under his arm. Half a mile W. is the Mote (Col. Luard-Selby), a most interesting moated grange (*not shown*), of the times of Edward III., Henry VII., Elizabeth, and James I., once the seat of Sir Thomas Cawne, who is buried in Ightham church. It came to the Selbys, a Northumberland family, in 1592, and a member of this family, dying without issue, gave it, in Charles I.'s reign, to another Selby, simply because he was of the same name. 3m. from Ightham and nearly 4m. from Tunbridge, is SHIPBORNE, in the church of which Harry Vane is buried. In the parish is the seat of Fairhill (Earl of Derby). At Under River, on the hill-side half a mile W., is a new church by Scott. From Shipborne it is a pleasant walk to TUNBRIDGE. (*Railway station S.E.R., junction of Dover and Hastings, and Croydon and Redhill lines. Hotel: Rose and Crown; p. 13.*)

Road Excursions.

XVI. MAIDSTONE TO ASHFORD, BY LEEDS, LENHAM,
AND CHARING.

This is one of the prettiest walks in all Kent, the road for the whole distance running at the base of the range of hills which overlooks the valley of the Medway from Rochester to Maidstone, and thence to Ashford, whence it curves round to the N.E. and extends to Canterbury. It is a district not much frequented, but contains charming scenery of true Kentish character. (*There is an omnibus daily.*) Taking the road due E. from the market place at Maidstone, the tourist passes half a mile l. Vinters (J. Whatman, M.P.), and a little farther on (rt.) the Mote (Earl of Romney), a plain house, in a charming park of 600 acres. The name "Mote" is from the Anglo-Saxon, and means a gathering place. This estate formerly belonged to the family of Woodville, created Lord Rivers, the daughter of the first lord (Elizabeth Woodville) having been Edward IV.'s queen. It then passed to the Wyatts of Allington, whose estates were forfeited for rebellion, and subsequently to the Marshams, one of whom became Lord Romney. The third lord gave a dinner party to 3000 people in the park on the occasion of George III.'s visit. 1m. rt. is Otham, in the middle of a district abounding in fruit, hops, and paper and fulling mills, the latter supplied by the little stream of the Len. The church (Norman) has monuments to John Elys, 1467, and Lewin Bufkin, of Gore Court (Mrs. Brockman), a pretty old house near the village. 2m. Berstead, the church tower of which (Perpendicular) contains three figures, supposed to be bears, and to refer to the name of the parish. 3m. rt. the park of Millgate (J. Brenchley). 5m. rt. LEEDS CASTLE (C. Wykeham Martin), one of the finest seats in Kent, and of great antiquity. At the time of the Conquest Leeds was given to the family of Crevecoeur, from whom it passed to the De Leybornes. It was given up to the Crown by one of the De Leybornes (*temp.* Edward I.), and became the dowry of his wife Eleanor, who appointed Bartholomew, Lord of Badlesmere, its keeper. He, however, having joined the rebellion of the Earl of Somerton, the castle was

besieged, Thomas Colepepper, its castellan for the time, hung, as was also the Lord of Badlesmere himself. In 1359 William of Wykeham resided here, and is said to have rebuilt the castle, though, as far as architecture goes, there are no signs of his work. Henry VIII., however, made great additions to the defences, its situation, as commanding one of the principal valleys in the county, and its central position, attracting his notice. Richard II. and Henry IV. both paid Leeds a visit, and the latter gave it to Archbishop Arundel for his life. Edward VI. gave it subsequently to Sir Anthony St. Leger, from whom it passed to the Smyths of Westenhanger, the Colepeppers (whose ancestor was hung at the gate), and finally, through the Fairfaxes, to the present owner. Leeds has undergone more than the usual mutations of possession. It is a mixture of the modern dwelling house with the castellated fortress of the thirteenth century, the portions of this date being in good preservation and very excellent examples. The whole building stands on three islands, in the middle of a lake formed by the Len, which, by a system of sluices, could be turned on to a large portion of the park, and thus increase the defensive condition. These islands were connected by drawbridges, so that they could be defended as a whole, or separately. On one of them are the remains of the barbican and the castle mill; on another, the gatehouse, the outer building, and a wing of the castle; and on the third the main body of the fortress. The dates of the various mediæval portions are from the thirteenth century (and even older) and Henry VIII., Sir Henry Guildford, the then castellan, having erected the greater part of the building on the third island. The chapel is believed to have been the oldest of all, and had windows (which have been restored) with Kentish tracery in them. With the exception of some family portraits (including one of the Duchess of Buckingham, mentioned by Walpole), there is nothing of particular interest in the interior arrangements. At the back of the park, on the Maidstone side, there are one or two buildings worth visiting. Battle hall is a farmhouse of the date of the fourteenth century, with later alterations. There is a good arch supported by two figures, and a curious lavatory and cistern. Battle is believed to have been built by Robert de Crevecoeur as a residence for the canons of Leeds

Priory, which was founded by him 1119 for Augustinian canons, close to this spot. The church of this establishment was celebrated for a shrine of the Virgin, but no traces are left of either abbey or church. Leeds church has aisles to both choir and nave, and contains some fragmentary stained glass and many monuments of the seventeenth century to the Merediths, who, together with the Coverts, held the Priory estates some time after the Dissolution. The village of Leeds, a little to S., is picturesque, and contains more than one old-fashioned house. To the S. of both Leeds Park and the village of Broomfield is the King's wood, a bit of forest land, separating them from the villages of Chart Sutton, Sutton Valence, East Sutton, and Ulcomb (p. 15), all on the ridge of the Quarry hills, overlooking the Weald country.

L. of the road 1m., under the brow of the hill, is Hollingbourne, with an unusually good church, containing an aisle devoted to the tombs of the Colepeppers, who lived (*temp.* Elizabeth) at Greenway Court in this parish. Amongst the monuments are a white marble effigy of Lady Elizabeth Colepepper, one of Lord Colepepper by *Rysbrach*, and one to Sir Martin Barnham, 1610, his two wives and family. The altar and pulpit cloths were said to have been worked by ten daughters of this Lord Colepepper, who was a cavalier, and was banished for twelve years. 8m. Harrietsham, a pretty village, with some old-fashioned timbered houses. The church contains the altar-tomb of William Stede, 1574, whose family lived at Stede Place (W. Baldwin), which overlooks the valley from the hill above.

10 LENHAM, a village of considerable size, near which the river Stour rises, as also the smaller stream of the Len, the one finding its way into the sea at Sandwich, the other flowing into the Medway. Lenham was once in the possession of the monks of St. Augustine, Canterbury, and contains an unusually interesting church (Early English and Perpendicular). The monks' oaken stalls still remain, and a massive stone chair or sedile. Amongst the tombs are the effigy of a priest of Edward III.'s reign, and monuments to the Perrys, sixteenth century; T. Howe, fifteenth century; Derings, Brockwells, and others. 1m. S. of Lenham is Chilson (D. S. Douglas), and S.W. of that again is Boughton Malherbe, famous as being the birthplace, at Boughton Place, of Sir Henry

Wotton, a celebrated diplomatist and poet-littérateur of the sixteenth century, whose biography was written by Izaak Walton. He died as Provost of Eton, 1639. After his death the Place passed to the Stanhopes, and was sold by an Earl of Chesterfield to the brother of Sir Horace Mann, who lived here for some time. It is now a farmhouse, but still contains a fine dining room (engraved in Nash's 'Halls of England') and chimney-piece. It was originally built by Sir C. Wotton (*temp.* Henry VIII.), who used up the materials of an old tower named Colbridge Castle for the purpose, and here he was visited by Queen Elizabeth. In Boughton church are several monuments to the Wotton family, and one to Lord Stanhope, 1635, together with a marble effigy of a knight and lady, supposed to be one of the Malherbes. A little beyond Lenham, a road l. leads 2½ m. to Otterden village, from whence the views all look northward towards Faversham and Whitstable. Otterden Place (Rev. C. Wheler) is a fine Tudor house.

13½ CHARING, in old days of considerable importance, as being on the Pilgrims' road to Canterbury, and a favourite residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, where royalty was frequently entertained. During the progresses and visits of kings, the archiepiscopal palaces were the usual halting places, and Henry VII. and Henry VIII. both honoured Charing as a temporary residence. The remains of the palace are close to the church, and consist mainly of the gateway (Early Decorated) and part of the court, with the chapel at the back. The church (Early English and Perpendicular) is principally remarkable for having contained the block upon which John the Baptist was beheaded, said to have been brought over from Palestine by Richard Cœur de Lion. Between Charing and Ashford (1½ m. l.) is Westwell, the church of which contains some remarkably fine Early English stained glass, the relics of a Jesse window. Eastwell Park is described at p. 143. On rt. are Hothfield and Godinton, soon after which the tourist enters, 18 m. ASHFORD (p. 16). (*Station S.E.R. Junction of main line with Canterbury, Margate, and Deal, and Rye and Hastings branches.*)

Road Excursions.**XVII. TUNBRIDGE WELLS TO CANTERBURY, BY GOUDHURST, BIDDENDEN, AND CHARING.**

By the greater portion of this route, the tourist will be enabled to explore some of the most beautiful and characteristic scenery of the Weald country, which as yet is tolerably free from railway intrusions. The road to Pembury is followed for rather more than 1m., when it divides, l. to Pembury, Tunbridge, and Somerhill; rt. to Pembury Green, an outlying part of the parish, commanding very charming views. L. is the Tunbridge Union house; rt., Grovehurst (G. Fereday-Smith); 3m. Bopeep Green; 3½m., at Kipping's Cross, a road (l.) to Brenchley and Paddock Wood. 6½m., road (rt.) to Lamberhurst, ¾m., a very pretty village on high ground, half in Kent, half in Sussex, and on the banks of the Teise, which flows into the Medway near Yalding. Lamberhurst was busier and more celebrated in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries than it is now, for it was one of the seats of the Sussex iron trade, which in the days of charcoal smelting was largely carried on here. Close to the village, on Kent bank of the Teise, is Court Lodge (W. C. Morland), and on the other side is Finchcocks (Mr. Harrison Blair), once the seat of the Bathursts (*temp.* Elizabeth).

9 GOUDHURST, a very considerable village extending along the ridge of a high hill, with wide and beautiful views N. over Horsmonden, Brenchley, and Marden to the Quarry hills, and S. over Cranbrook and a large extent of Sussex. It is said that on a clear day no less than fifty-nine churches may be seen from here. Before ascending the hill, however, and crossing the Teise, a short deviation can be made to Horsmonden church (restored 1868), which by a curious inconsistency is nearly 2m. S. of the village of the same name. It has a remarkably fine brass to John de Grophurst, 1330, who gave the manor of Leueshothe, or Lewis Hoath, to Bayham Abbey. The church has also a very picturesque wooden porch. The house in the pretty grounds to the N. is the parsonage. There are some pleasant seats in the village: Capel manor (J. F. Austen), Sprivers (E.

Hilton), Sherrenden (Rev. W. Ruxton); and there are good views from a tower which was built by the late rector in honour of Sir W. Scott. Rt. of the main road is Spelmonden, the ancient manor house of the Poynings. Goudhurst is a long straggling place, with a fair number of old-fashioned timbered houses in it. One cottage, in particular, has a striking cinquefoiled oak doorway. The church (Perpendicular) has monuments to the Colepeppers of Bedgbury, who flourished in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Two of these are effigies in wood, on an altar-tomb of Bethersden marble. As Lamberhurst was celebrated for its iron manufacture, so was Goudhurst for its woollen, and both have equally disappeared. Bedgbury wood and Kilndown church are prominent features in the view from the church. These, as well as Bedgbury Park (A. J. B. Beresford-Hope, M.P.), are all more easily visited from Cranbrook. The road from Goudhurst to Biddenden extends for a considerable distance on the brow of the hill, passing (l.) Ladham (Sir G. Jessel) and (rt.) Glassenbury (T. W. Roberts), an old moated house, restored by *Silvin*. 12m. (rt.) road to Cranbrook, 1m. (*described at p. 141*), passing Angley (Sackett Tomline). 13½m., at Milkhouse Street, are a few remains of a chapel founded by John Lawness (*temp.* Henry VI.). 14½m. l., some little distance off the road, is Sissinghurst (Admiral Houston), and the scanty ruins of Sissinghurst Castle, once a very fine house, built by Sir John Baker (*temp.* Edward VI.), and the birthplace of Sir Richard Baker, the chronicler. Subsequently it fell into decay, and was used as a gaol for French prisoners, and after the termination of the war was pulled down altogether. 15m., at Three Chimneys a road (l.) goes to Frittenden, where is a Perpendicular church, restored by *Hussey*.

16 BIDDENDEN village is interesting more from a local custom than for any object worth visiting, although it has rather a good Early English church (restored 1857). On Easter Sunday there is a great distribution of little flat cakes by the churchwardens in the church porch, to all who choose. These cakes are stamped with the outline of two females joined together like the two-headed Nightingale, and are supposed to commemorate two charitable parishioners who were united in this fashion. 3m. E. of Biddenden is High Halden, the church of which has a wooden tower and spire of the date of Henry VI.

From Biddenden the road to Charing turns N.E., passing, 1m., Standen, a curious old timbered house, 1578, with an inscription over the door. 2½m. Smarden church contains monuments to the Otway and Turner families (eighteenth century), and a trefoil-headed ornamentation in the chancel. 2m. farther, the road crosses S.E.R. main line to Ashford, and reaches (3¼m. from Smarden) the village of Pluckley (p. 16); 1m., Little Chart; and 2m., Charing (p. 117), where it crosses the ridge of hill that runs from Maidstone, and plunges into the Long Beech wood at the back of Eastwell Park, the avenue to which is passed at 2¼m. (from Charing). 3m. the road from Ashford to Faversham is crossed, leaving Eastwell Park and Challock (with its high church tower) on rt. (p. 144). 4m. (l.) Moldash church, which has monuments to the Chapman family, and an ancient font. On rt. are the fine masses of wood in Godmersham and Chilham Park. 6¼m., Chilham, with its interesting castle and church. From this spot the turnpike road is identical with the course of the S.E.R., and will be found described at p. 69.

Road Excursions.

XVIII. TUNBRIDGE WELLS TO SITTINGBOURNE, BY HADLOW, PECKHAM, MEREWORTH, AND MAIDSTONE.

The road from Tunbridge Wells to Tunbridge, 5m., is one of the most beautiful in the county, being carried for the whole distance on the ridge of a hill that affords exquisite views on both sides. The railway runs in a valley on rt. Between Tunbridge Wells and Southborough, where in old days the cavalier portion of the visitors to the wells used to find accommodation, are numberless villas and residences. At Nonsuch Green, 1m., a road on l. goes to Speldhurst, the square low church tower of which is seen in the distance. 2¼m. (l.) is Boundes Park (W. J. Blackburne-Maze), formerly the residence of Sir Thomas More, who was presented with it by Henry VIII. Erasmus used to visit him here. In the grounds is an obelisk to the memory of Lady Catherine Stewart, first wife of Lord Londonderry. The road on l. goes to Bidborough and Penshurst. Very beautiful occasional peeps are obtained of the country in the valley below about Leigh, and

towards Edenbridge. 3½m. (l.) Mabledon (J. Deacon), from whence it is a long descent into Tunbridge (p. 13), passing near the station the church of St. Stephen. (*From the station there is an omnibus to Hadlow.*) The road crosses the open valley of the Medway, a district luxuriant in hops and fruit trees. 3½m. from Tunbridge is

HADLOW, conspicuous far and wide for the lofty modern campanile tower of Hadlow Castle (R. Rodger), from which there is a very fine view. The church contains a monument to Sir John Rivers and wife (*temp.* James I.). On the rise of the hill (l.) is Oxenheath (Sir W. Geary, Bart.), and farther on, occupying the brow of a hill, one on each side the road, are East and West Peckham. The latter village was formerly a preceptory of the Knights Hospitallers (fifteenth century), and the former has a memorial window in the church to the late Mr. Cooke, of Roydon hall, an interesting old house in this parish, which during the civil war was the residence of Sir Roger Twysden, the archæologist, who is buried in the church. 1m. N. of the Peckhams, on the outskirts of the great masses of Hurst and Mereworth woods, is

MEREWORTH. The Place (Viscount Falmouth) was once the property of the Nevills, Earls of Abergavenny, from whom it came by marriage to the Fanes. The house was built after an Italian design, for the eighth Earl of Westmoreland. But the glory of Mereworth is the beautiful park and the long avenues of timber. The church contains monuments to the Nevills and Fanes, transferred hither from the old church, which was pulled down when the house was built. 1½m. is Watlingbury village and Place, the seat of the Lucas family (p. 94). From hence the tourist can, if he prefer, journey to Maidstone by rail, though he will find some lovely scenery if he ascend the hill at the back of Barham Court (Roger Leigh) to East Malling Heath, and then skirt the East Malling woods to Barming Heath, on which is the Kent Lunatic Asylum. By this route it is about 4½m. to

MAIDSTONE. (*Hotels: Mitre, Bell; p. 60.*) The Sittingbourne road leaves the town by the gaol, keeping Penenden Heath on l., where, in the county hall, the elections are held. Rt. is Vinters (Jas. Whatman, M.P.). The hill is then ascended to Debtling. From its situation, on the brow of a chalk ridge, there is a very extensive view over the valley of the Medway. The church on l. is that of

Boxley, on rt., Thurnham. The country between Maidstone and Sittingbourne is not equal in scenery to that of the lower valleys, though it is sufficiently well wooded and very picturesque in places. 6½m. (l.) Stockbury church has some good carving, and thirteenth century stained glass, and 2m. N. is Hartlip, near which some very interesting Roman baths and portions of a villa were discovered in 1848. 8m., Borden church (1m. rt.) has a Norman tower and west doorway with mouldings, and a brass to W. Fordinall, fifteenth century. 9m., the old Watling Street (the high road from Rochester and Sittingbourne) is joined at Keycoll Hill, where more remains have been found in the shape of urns and coins, and there are also earthworks in the parish. From hence, leaving Milton on l., it is nearly 2m. to Sittingbourne (p. 36).

Road Excursions.

XIX. FOLKESTONE TO HYTHE, NEW ROMNEY, LYDD, AND RYE.

Folkestone is described at p. 18. The carriage-road to Sandgate, 1½m., runs a little through the pleasantest and most recent portion of modern Folkestone; but it is a far more enjoyable walk along the cliffs, which command a magnificent sea and coast view, extending to Dungeness. At the foot of the steep hill is

1½ SANDGATE (*Station S.E.R., branch from Westenhanger. Hotel: Royal Norfolk*), a pleasant little watering-place close to the water's edge. The castle is simply one of the uninteresting coast defences built by Henry VIII. Henry Bolingbroke embarked from Sandgate when exiled by Richard II. On the cliffs above is Shorncliffe camp, which became permanent after the Crimean war, and affords accommodation for about 5000 men.

5 HYTHE (*Station S.E.R. Pop. 3383. Hotels: Swan, White Hart. Omnibus to Sandgate and Folkestone*) is one of the chief Cinque Ports, although, in actual locality, West Hythe, some 2m. W., was the original and most important harbour. At West Hythe, or rather Lymne, was the Portus Lemani of the Romans, now quite 2m. from present high water-mark, showing what great changes have taken place in the conformation of the coast. The harbour of Hythe was silting up in Queen Elizabeth's

time, and now it is a sort of compromise between a watering-place and a military station, in which capacity, indeed, it is best known. The School of Musketry has been established here for many years, and the shore is covered for a considerable distance with rifle-butts, guarded by the Moncrieff and Sutherland forts. The church is on high ground at the back of the town, and commands a wide view over Romney Marsh. It is cruciform (principally Early English), and has an interesting aisled chancel, which is raised by steps above the body of the church, an arrangement rendered necessary by the crypt underneath. It has a beautiful arcade of Bethersden marble, and in the N. transept is a Norman zig-zag door, but the S. transepts and tower are of much later date, being rebuilt only in the last century. There is a brass to J. Bredgman, first mayor of Hythe, 1581. In the so-called crypt is a collection of skulls and bones, which Mr. Wright thinks may have come from some Anglo-Saxon cemetery in the neighbourhood, but which others believe to have been the gatherings from the four churches which Hythe possessed before the Reformation. There are two ancient hospitals in the town, St. Bartholomew's, 1336, the foundation of Bishop Hamo, of Rochester, and St. John's, the history of which is unknown. Between Hythe and Shorncliffe commences the Military Canal, 90 feet broad, which runs across the Romney Marsh for a distance of 23m. to Rye. It was made in 1805 for the conveyance of military stores, but it has never been of much use, and is now almost entirely superseded by the railway.

Excursions :

- a. Saltwood Castle, 1m. N., a charming walk. The castle is of great age, and was given to the See of Canterbury, 1026, by King Knut. It was held by various knights under the archbishops, but was forfeited by Henry II., in whose time Randulf de Broc was governor. Archbishop à Becket then claimed it again as belonging to Canterbury, and it was this fact that stirred up the enmity which led to his death. The four knights concerned in the murder met together at Saltwood to concert the plan of action, and from thence rode along the Stone Street to

Canterbury, one of the De Brocs acting as guide through the passages of the Archbishop's palace to the cloisters (p. 74). Saltwood was eventually given back to the archbishops, who made it an occasional residence. The ruins are extensive, and cover a good deal of ground, though there is not very much in good preservation. They consist of the outer wall, on the inner side of which is a moat, now dry, formerly crossed by a drawbridge. The gate-tower leading to the inner court is the best part, and is used as a farmhouse. It was built by Archbishop Courtenay (Richard II.), and is flanked by circular towers. The inner court contained the apartments, and was also surrounded by high turreted walls, but the only portions which can be traced are the chapel (in the centre), a hall on the S., and the well. From the castle cross the brook (which formerly supplied the moat) to the church, a fine Decorated building (restored). It consists of nave, chancel, and aisles, the N. aisle being the burial place of the Brockhill family (Edward IV.). There are brasses to J. Verien, 1370, T. Brockhill, 1437, and A. Myston, 1496. The Brockhill family had a manor house at Saltwood Green, of which some remains may be seen. Near it is Brockhill house (T. W. Tournay).

- b. West Hythe and Lymne, 3m. W. Follow the Military Canal to West Hythe, once a thriving port, which flourished on the decay of Lymne. Ascend the hill to the latter ancient spot, which is placed on the summit of the ridge, and has a splendid view over the coast, extending over Dungeness to Fairlight, near Hastings. Lymne was the *Portus Lemanis* of the Romans, and, like Reculver (*Regulbium*) and Richborough (*Rutupiæ*), a celebrated garrison station. From hence a road, still called the Stone Street (p. 127), led in a direct line over the hills to Canterbury. It is believed that the harbour of that day was formed by the estuary of the Rother, which now falls

into the sea at Rye; but although there is no doubt that the Rother has changed its bed very considerably, it can scarcely have travelled so far out of its way as the distance between Lymne and Rye, some 19m. At the bottom of the cliff (apparently the result of a landslip) is Studfall Castle, in reality the ancient *castrum* or station, which occupies about 12 acres, but has not the regular arrangement or the interesting remains of Rutupiæ. But it had the same general plan, an E. and W. straight wall, the N. rather semicircular, the S. absent, where the *castrum* looked over the cliff. Circular towers guarded the walls at intervals, and one of these at the S. angle is in fair preservation, being 45 feet round and 10 feet high. The Decuman gate was in the E. wall. As at Richborough, the thickness of the wall is considerable, and the masonry is executed with great care. Inscribed stones, altars, and coins of the time of Constantine, were discovered here by Mr. Roach Smith. Lymne church is Early English, but has a Norman tower, built by Archbishop Lanfranc. Near it is a castellated Edwardian house, probably also built originally by Lanfranc, but afterwards altered to form a residence for the archdeacons of Canterbury. The walk may be extended to Hurst (3m. farther), on the canal, where is an old house, much in vogue in Jacobite times as a hiding place, and subsequently in equal favour with the smuggling fraternity.

From Hythe a rather dreary and uninteresting road keeps towards the coast, running close to the sea at about the third mile. Here is the Grand Redoubt, a large fort, and here also commences the Dymchurch wall, a strongly protected seawall of 3m. in length, 20 feet high, and as many broad at the top, although at the base it swells out to between 200 feet and 300 feet. The protection from the sea, as well as the internal drainage, is very carefully regulated, and in the reign of Edward IV. was overlooked by a bailiff and twenty-four jurats. It is now under the charge of twenty-three

lords of the manor, who are styled Lords of the Levels.

5m. (from Hythe), Dymchurch, a Norman church. Roman pottery was found here in great abundance during the progress of the wall. Inland are the churches of Burmarsh (Early English) and Newchurch. From Dymchurch there is a good view of

9 NEW ROMNEY (*Pop.* 1062. *Inn*: *Ship*), once a thriving member of the Cinque Ports, and now, like most of them, some distance from the sea. This happened in Edward I.'s reign, during the storm which changed the bed of the Rother. Romney was however an important place long after it ceased to be a port; for the courts of the Cinque Ports were originally held at Shepway Cross, near Lymne, and then here. Moreover it had five churches, of which only one (St. Nicholas) remains. It has a fine Norman tower and external arcade, and contains a monument to R. Stupenci, 1527, and brasses to T. Lambarde, 1514, and Thomas Smyth, 1610. Romney has but little trade, and is mainly celebrated for its sheep fair, it being the metropolis of the Marsh district, which extends from Hythe to Rye, some 14m. long by 4m. to 8m. broad, and is divided arbitrarily into the four divisions of Romney Marsh (the largest), Walling Marsh, Denge Marsh (the most southerly), and Guildford Level. A fine hardy race of sheep is pastured on these flats, which yield little else. The Warren, near Romney, is occasionally used for artillery practice. Some curious old customs still exist in the town, one of which is the election of the mayor in the church. 1½m. inland is Old Romney, on the former bed of the Rother; and 2m. farther Brenzett church (Norman), which contains monuments to the Fogge family, seventeenth century. Brookland church (S. of Brenzett) has a curious detached bell tower, built of timber. Ivychurch (to the E.) has a fine Perpendicular tower and beacon turret, not an unusual practice in these Marsh churches, where the path was difficult and devious.

The main road to Rye passes through Brookland and East Guildford, but the tourist will find it worth his while to keep S. 4m. to LYDD (*Inn*: *George*), attached originally to the Cinque Port of Romney, and possessing more vitality than the mother port, although it is nearly 4m. from the sea. The church (of which Wolsey was

once vicar) is cruciform, and has a Perpendicular tower, a monument with effigy to Sir Walter Meynell (Edward III.), and no less than twelve brasses, mainly of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. 3m. S. of Lydd is the promontory of Dungeness, in itself a dreary and monotonous flat of sand and shingle, but celebrated for its lighthouse, built 1831 by *Wyatt*, and since then fitted up with the most recent inventions, foremost of which may be mentioned the magneto-electric machine, which produces the most brilliant light in existence. The lighthouse, with its accompanying buildings, coastguard station, and forts for its defence, form quite a little colony. It may be mentioned that the whole of this district is interesting to the botanist, and is especially noted for its excellent honey, bee-keeping being an universal industry here.

The tourist can keep along the shore from Dungeness to Rye (about 9m.), and he will find a ferry, by which he can cross the Rother.

Road Excursions.

XX. HYTHE TO CANTERBURY, BY THE STONE STREET (ROMAN ROAD).

This road is of considerable interest, partly from its character and associations, and partly because it opens up a large extent of out-of-the-way district, in which the tourist will find scenery of a different kind from the ordinary Kentish type, and some interesting churches. From Westenhanger to Canterbury it runs straight as a line, with but one slight deviation at Monk's Horton. The name of Stone Street sufficiently betokens its origin, which was that of a main Roman road between Lymne (Portus Lemanis) and Canterbury (Durovernum), from whence a similar road runs N.E. to the court at Reculver (Regulbium), and another due E. to Rutupiae (Richborough). Thus the three great Kentish ports and settlements were placed in direct communication. For the first portion of the route, the road to Westenhanger station is followed, quitting Hythe through a defile in the hill, and leaving Saltwood and its castle to rt. Or the tourist may keep straight along the brow overlooking West Hythe, and take his start from Lymne itself. At

the foot of the hill he will see the site of the "Portus" in Studfall Castle (p. 125). 1m. New Inn Green, the London road goes off to l. 1½m. *Westenhanger junction*, S.E.R. and manor house (p. 18). Rt. Sandling Park (W. Deedes) containing broken and pretty scenery. 1m. from Westenhanger (rt.) is Stanford church, the font of which is said to have belonged to the old church of Westenhanger, pulled down in sixteenth century. There is a very ancient monument in Postling church, 1m. N.E. On l. is Horton Park (Major Kirkpatrick), through which a path may be taken to Monk's Horton church, on the farther side of it. It has some Early stained glass. 1½m. S.W. of the church is Horton Priory (now a farmhouse) of which some few traces are left in a good panelled room and ornamented ceiling. The Priory was founded by Robert de Vere, for Cluniac monks (*temp.* Henry II.), but it never rose to much importance. (The best way of visiting it is by a footpath from Westenhanger station, nearly 2m.). On rt. of the Stone Street (1½m.) is Lyminge, interesting as being the seat of one of the earliest Benedictine nunneries in England, founded 633, by CEdilberge, daughter of Ethelbert, and wife of Edwin of Northumbria. She herself was buried in the church, which is one of the most ancient in the county, and has distinct traces of Roman and Anglo-Saxon masonry, the fact being that an old Roman church, or basilicon, first of all existed here, and the Saxon church was built upon its site. Of the basilicon, the foundations and a portion of apse have been brought to light by the present vicar, the Rev. Canon Jenkins. The visitor should notice also the three little round-headed windows in the chancel. The rest of the church is of later date, and was added to by different archbishops, such as Warham, Cardinal Morton, and others, Lyminge having been the property of the See. The church has been restored by *Butterfield*, and a very good E. window placed in it (by *Gibbs*). In the S. wall of the nave is the probable burying place of the foundress. Lyminge, St. Martin's (Canterbury), and Barfreston, may be quoted as the three most interesting churches in Kent.

3½m. (from Westenhanger) l. half a mile is Stouting church, also very well restored, with good sixteenth century stained glass, apparently an old memorial window for the founders, Richard and Juliana de Stotyne. This

parish is supposed to have been the locale of a battle in Brito-Roman times, from the number of skeletons and other remains found at different times. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. farther W., under the chalk ridge, is Brabourne church, very interesting as being the burial place of the Scott family, to whom there are numerous brasses of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The altar is occupied by a monument to one of them, and in the chancel is a curious stone altar under a canopy, under which it is supposed that some important person is buried. The yew trees in the churchyard are particularly fine, and one that has long disappeared is mentioned by Evelyn. They point, with other facts, to the former importance of Brabourne as a church.

$5\frac{1}{2}$ m. (l. 1m.) is Elmstead. The church (Early English) has a monument to Sir John Honeywood, 1781, with some brasses, and a tomb with old English inscription. Hastingleigh church (1m. farther W.) has a brass to John Halke, 1604. N. of it is Evington (Sir C. Honeywood, Bart.). Rt. of the Stone Street (between 2m. and 3m.) is Elham, a large village, which formerly had the dignity of a market town. The church (restored) is a fine one (Early English), and has a library containing some rare books. 8m. rt. is Stelling church, overlooking a common called Stelling Minnis. $9\frac{1}{2}$ m. (rt. $\frac{1}{2}$ m.) is Upper Hardres, the church of which has a brass to John Strete, a priest (1404), and monuments to the Hardres family, which lived at Hardres Court, now a farmhouse, from the Conquest to the eighteenth century. One of this family was an officer in Henry VIII.'s service, and brought away with him the gates of Boulogne, after its siege. From hence a cross country walk of $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. will bring the tourist to Bishopsbourne (p. 41), on the Canterbury and Dover road.

10m. (l. $\frac{1}{2}$ m.) is Petham. There are earthworks in the parish. Kenfield Hall (R. E. Thomson.) 11m. (rt.) is Lower Hardres, soon after which there is a splendid view of Canterbury. On rt. is Nackington, the church of which has a monument to the Rev. Bryan Faussett, a celebrated antiquary who formed the Anglo-Saxon collection at present in the museum at Liverpool.

14m. from Westenhangar, the road enters the ancient city of Canterbury (p. 70). (*Hotels: Rose, Fountain, Fleur-de-Lys, Fleece.*)

Road Excursions.**XXI. SANDWICH TO DEAL, WALMER, ST. MARGARET'S,
AND DOVER.**

From Sandwich the tourist may proceed to Deal either by rail (p. 84), by the sandhills on the coast, or by road, the latter the most interesting. A diversion can be made in the first portion, by which Woodnesborough, Eastry, and Betshanger may be visited on the way. Quitting Sandwich by the railway station, and passing St. Bartholomew and its hospital, the knoll upon which Woodnesborough (pronounced Winsborough) is situated, is reached $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. Here we again fall back into the early traditions of East Kent; for not only is the name Woden's borough of Saxon import, but there is a mound close to the church supposed to be of religious meaning, some believing that it commemorates the battle between Ceoldred of Mercia and Sua of Wessex, 715. The church has brasses to Sir John Parcar, 1513, Nicholas Spencer, 1593, and Mytchell Heyre, 1528. From this point too commences a long line of Roman road which runs due S., and connected Richborough (Rutupiæ) with Lymne (Portus Lemanis). 3m. (or $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. direct from Sandwich) is Eastry, a pleasant and pretty village, wherein is situated the Union house and a very good church (partly Norman and partly Early English). In early days this church belonged to the Christ church Priory at Canterbury, and Archbishop à Becket made use of it as a hiding place for several days before his flight. Some of the old chroniclers consider Eastry to be the place where the murder of the Saxon princes took place by Egbert, the fourth Christian king of Kent, to expiate which crime he founded the monastery at Minster. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Eastry is Betshanger (Sir Walter James, Bart.) whose pretty park and outbuildings comprise the whole of the parish, including the church, a charming little Norman building, restored by *Salvin*. The gardens at Betshanger are worth seeing, and are usually open on Thursdays. From hence the tourist should turn to the E., steering for Northbourne by the guide of a windmill on the summit of a hill, from whence there is a very wide view of the coast from the North Foreland, Ramsgate, and Sandwich

on l. to Deal, Walmer, and the cliffs at Kingsdown on rt. The foreground is occupied with a great extent of marsh land; and in the far distance, if the weather be rough, is the white line of angry breakers on the Goodwin Sands. Northbourne is an interesting village, and was formerly one of the favourite possessions of the monks of St. Augustine at Canterbury. Previous to the foundation, a palace was built here by King Eadbald, but of this no traces remain. Subsequently it became a grange or a manor house for the monks, who constructed large gardens, barns and fishponds, placing the whole under the care of a lay brother, and frequently visiting the establishment themselves. In James I.'s reign, Northbourne was given to Sir E. Sandys, who built a fine house, which was afterwards pulled down, and is now superseded by a very inferior one. The gardens at the back contain many old walls and terraces, and they extend down the slope of the hill looking towards Mongeham. A handsome gateway and some portions of outbuildings of Tudor date are worth examining. The church (recently restored) is a fine cruciform building, with a Transitional Norman nave and tower, and Early English chancel and transept. There are three very singular windows in the chancel, one above the other, the upper one circular-headed, the lower in an arched recess. In S. transept are the monument and effigies of Sir Edwyn Sandys and wife, 1639. The S. door has a Norman tympanum and moulding. It is a pretty walk through the glen of Northbourne Park to Great Mongeham, 1m., a fine old Early English church, with an ivy-covered tower, one of the best in the neighbourhood. It has been restored by *Butterfield*, and contains the monument to the Crayfords (seventeenth century), with effigies of a knight, his wife, five sons, and a daughter. Like Northbourne, Great Mongeham also belonged to St. Augustine. Of Little Mongeham church (1m. inland) there are no remains save a lychgate.

From Mongeham it is 1m. to Sholdon (a small Early English church), and thence half a mile by turnpike road to Upper Deal, a pleasant village with some nice residences and a rather good church, with Norman details much churchwardenised. It has a brass to Thomas Boys, 1560.

5m. from Sandwich is DEAL, which, together with the

adjoining villages of Sholdon, Upper Deal, and Walmer, extends over a considerable area of ground.

(*Here is the termination of the S.E.R. branch line from Minster. Pop. 8009. Hotels: Royal, White Horse, Walmer Castle. Coaches to Dover several times a day.*) The town itself contains but little of interest, except for its quaint, narrow, ill-paved streets; and St. George's church is simply hideous, though St. Andrew's at the N. end is in better taste. There is a pleasant promenade on the pier. The naval yard has long ceased to exist, and the only remains of it is the pilot tower, from whence the time and wind signals are shown. Sandown Castle, at the extreme N. end of the town, has also been destroyed. It was interesting as being the prison of Colonel Hutchinson, the Puritan regicide, who died here 1664. His wife in her 'Memoirs' gives a very unfavourable account of the town of Deal, in which she was compelled to reside, not being allowed to share her husband's imprisonment. Sufficient remains of Sandown to show the thickness of the massive walls, though it never could have had many features worth noticing, being only one of the block towers erected by Henry VIII. for the defence of the coast. Much more picturesque is a portion of Deal Castle (Lord Clanwilliam), a large, massive, circular tower, with a deep moat and drawbridge. The poor modern house that is incorporated with it spoils the whole. Deal is thought by some antiquaries to have been the spot where Cæsar landed, but however that may be, it is certain that Perkin Warbeck landed here 1495; as have also two British queens—Anne of Cleves, 1540, and Queen Adelaide, when she first came over. At the present day Deal depends mainly upon the neighbouring military depôt of Walmer, and upon the shipping which take refuge in the Downs, sometimes accumulating after a long period of S.W. wind to five or six hundred sail. The Downs, which afford so safe a roadstead to the shipping of the world, is formed by the natural breakwater of the Goodwin Sands, which stretch from N. (nearly opposite Ramsgate) to S. (opposite Kingsdown). So far, these fatal sands, that have swallowed up so many good ships, prove a blessing; and as they are well protected now by the Gull Light (revolving), a fixed lightship at the back, and a third lightship at the South Sands Head, the number of casualties is diminished to a minimum. At

low water the sands may be seen at the distance of about 5m. as a low brown streak, and they can then be landed upon, though in themselves of no interest. The Deal and Walmer boatmen, or "hovellers," are known throughout England for their courage and bravery in assisting vessels in distress. 1m. from Deal is Lower Walmer. Here are a large naval hospital and very extensive barracks, used as the *depôt* for the Royal Marines. St. Saviour's, opposite the lifeboat house, is a modern church in good taste. 1½m. (from Deal) is WALMER village and church, the latter little better than a barn, and in fact only the fragment of a church. There is, however, a good Norman chancel arch and an Early English chancel. On the beach below the village is Walmer Castle, the residence of Earl Granville in his capacity as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. It is a fine old building, like the rest, one of Henry VIII.'s round-towered castles, but on a larger scale, and recently added to by the present Lord Warden. Here it was that our great Duke of Wellington lived (when he was Lord Warden), and died in a room in a turret on the Kingsdown side. But this has been altered of late years, and the castle is not shown, except in the absence of the family. The Duke once lived for a short time in a house in Castle Street, still called Wellesley house.

From Walmer there are two ways to Dover; (a) by turnpike road inland; (b) under the cliffs to Kingsdown and St. Margaret's Bay, by far the prettiest and most interesting walk.

a. The road is carried over high ground, and there are some occasional fine views over Ramsgate and the Isle of Thanet. 2½m. (from Deal) Ringwould village and church (restored), built of flint, and with a singular turret. It contains brasses to Wm. Avere and his wives, 1405; John Upton, 1530; and Elizabeth Gaunt, 1580. Close by is Ringwould house (John Monins). 1m. N.W. is Ripple church, with some good Norman details and a circular apse. The farmhouse adjoining was the old manor house of the Criols. Beyond Ringwould, l., is Oxney Court (W. Banks), with pleasant woods surrounding it, and farther on is a road to St. Margaret's (*post*), which is visible in the distance. Rt. (1m.) is East Langdon church, which has a singular embroidered pulpit cloth, and 1½m. beyond it is West Langdon, where may be seen a few remains of the Bene-

dictine Abbey, founded by Wm. de Aubeville, 1192. At the time of the Dissolution, the abbot was noted for the very irregular life which he led. 7½m., Swinggate, a roadside inn, rt. (1m.) is the small Norman church of Guston. 9m. A splendid view of the towers of Dover Castle suddenly bursts upon the tourist. Passing between it and (rt.) Fort Burgoyne, the road rapidly descends the hill, affording a most peculiar view of Dover lying at the bottom, girt all round, save on the seaside, by the fortified cliffs.

b. Immediately after passing Walmer Castle, the cliffs begin to show themselves, and attain a considerable height at Kingsdown, a typical little fishing village nestling under the rocks. There is a pretty modern church. Kingsdown house (Sir John Mellor). After passing the coastguard station, the road winds close under the cliffs, which are very abrupt and lofty, and, with their regular bands of flint, appear like giant fortresses. By the roadside are the rifle butts for the marines. On the cliffs above is a pretty marine cottage, recently built by Earl Granville. 3½m. from Walmer is

ST. MARGARET'S BAY, a very charming little hamlet, and a great place for picnics, at the base of the South Foreland, which, with the two lighthouses, rises to a considerable height on the S. The village of St. Margaret-at-Cliffe is on the hill above, and should be visited for its fine Norman church (restored). Externally there is a very beautiful Norman wall arcade running round the nave, and interrupted only by the clerestory windows. Internally the most interesting points are the nave, with its circular pillars with Norman sculpture, the lofty, circular-headed chancel arch, and the great length of the chancel itself. A little inland is Westcliffe church, a simple nave and chancel, which contains a monument to the grandfather of Gibbon the historian. The South Foreland lighthouses are at the height of 275 feet and 330 feet, one being placed back about ¼m. from the other. The magneto-electric revolving light here is very vivid, and from its position the South Foreland lighthouses command a great number of distant lights, including Dunkirk, Calais, Grisnez, and Boulogne. As the path passes close along the edge of the cliffs (for the tourist must not attempt to go to Dover at the base of the Foreland), the tourist will notice the spot where the

sub-marine telegraph wires are conducted down the rocks. St. Margaret's Bay is marked out as the point where the Channel tunnel will commence, though the actual mouth will of necessity be some distance inland. From the Foreland it is a most picturesque and magnificent cliff walk of about 3m. to Dover; but caution must be used before descending the Long valley in front of the Castle, lest firing should be going on, in which case a detour will have to be made to a parish road on rt. This necessity will be indicated by a red flag.

Road Excursions.

XXII. SANDWICH TO ASH, WINGHAM, AND CANTERBURY.

From Sandwich the road crosses the S.E.R. on the level, and for the first 2m. is carried over an uninteresting flat. (Rt.) in the distance is the hill on which are the low walls of Richborough (Rutupiæ), and immediately in front is the tall spire of Ash church, conspicuous for a great distance. 2m. rt. is Brook Street (Ingram Godfrey). The many names of places ending in "street" betoken the neighbourhood of Roman station and Roman road.

2½ ASH, a large straggling village, with a very fine church (restored), the history of which was written by Mr. Planché, the "Somerset Herald." The tower and lofty spire are Perpendicular, while the remainder of the church is Early English, and consists of nave, with aisles, chancel, and transepts. The E. window is by *Willement*, and there is a good memorial window to the Coleman family, in imitation of fifteenth century stained glass. The monuments are very interesting, particularly an altar-tomb with effigy of a knight and lady (Edward II.), as showing the change of costume from mail to plate armour. There is also a monument to Sir John Goshall (Edward III.), and brasses to R. Clitherow and wife, Jane Kerill, the Septvans family, &c. (fourteenth to seventeenth century). Ash appears to have once been a Saxon settlement, a cemetery of that date having been explored by the late Mr. Rolfe at Gilton town, at the Wingham end of the village, whence he obtained numerous relics and ornaments, and there are traces of earth-works in a field about half a mile S.E.

4m. (l.) are Pedden, and a little S. Grove park, on the

other side of which is Staple church, which has a burial chapel for the Groves family, and some monuments to that of Lynch. (Rt.) $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. is Elmstone church, and a little farther W., Preston church, overlooking the marsh valley of the Stour. From hence there is a path across these melancholy flats to Grove Ferry station, S.E.R.

6 WINGHAM, a little town, formerly of much more importance than it is now, both socially and ecclesiastically, for it was a market town, and there was also a college, founded by Archbishop Peckham, for a provost and six canons. Remains of this are to be seen in some timbered houses opposite the church, called the Canonries. The Red Lion Inn forms a portion of them. The church is a fine Perpendicular and Decorated building, consisting of nave, aisles, chancel, and transepts. The S. chancel is the burial place of the Oxendens of Dene (seventeenth century), to whose memory a hideous monument was raised. The stalls of the canons of the college still exist, but the brasses which covered their tombstones are gone. A marriage took place, 1360, between Elizabeth, daughter of the Marquis of Juliers, and Sir Eustace de Dabrieschescourt. As the lady had already taken the veil, this was a grave ecclesiastical offence, for which she had to do penance for fifty-one years. In this parish was born Henry de Wingham, 1261, Chancellor of England and Bishop of London.

7 Bramling House (S. M. Hilton). Here a cross-country road from Deal runs in; and as it might be more convenient for the tourist to make Deal his starting point, it will be worth while to indicate a few interesting churches on the way, which lies through Great Mongeham, Northbourne, and Betshanger (p. 130), or else through Tilmanstone, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of the latter. Tilmanstone church, though small, contains some good stained glass, believed to depict scenes in connection with the Knights Hospitallers. There are also monuments to the Fogges, sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Dane court (E. R. Rice). $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Tilmanstone is Knowlton park (W. H. D'Aeth) and church. The latter is very small, with a wooden tower, and contains an altar tomb to Sir John and James Narborough, who were wrecked on a voyage with Sir Cloudesley Shovel, 1707. The sculpture represents a ship on the rocks. The park is charmingly wooded, and was once the residence of the Narboroughs, ancestors of

the present owner. In the pretty valley below is Chillenden, with a little Norman church, which once belonged to the Priory of Leeds. This parish was the birth-place of Prior Chillenden, 1411, who did so much towards the building of Canterbury Cathedral. Beyond Chillenden is Goodnestone (or Gunstone) park (Lord Fitzwalter) and church. The former is of great beauty, and has fine timber. The house was rebuilt by Sir Brook Brydges during the Georges. In the church are brasses to Wm. Boys (the founder), wife, and eight children, 1507; Wm. Goodnestone, 1423; monuments to Sir E. and Sir T. Engeham (seventeenth century), and to the Brydges family. There is a curious wall sculpture of a sow with a litter of pigs, while another holds a child in its lap. The road then passes (l.) Dane park, leaving Wingham on rt.

8 LITTLEBOURNE, a charming village on the Little Stour, warm and sunny, where the monks of St. Augustine had a vine plantation and fishponds. The church is Early English, and in the churchyard is a monument to the granddaughter of General Ortegoso, Vice-president of Peru. Close to the village (l.) is Lee Priory (Francis Philips), a beautiful house by *Scott*, in a very pretty park. Sir Egerton Brydges, to whom Lee formerly belonged, was a great collector and virtuoso, and established here the Lee Priory Press, which had a great reputation with literati. 1m. (rt.) is Ickham, with a fine cruciform church, formerly belonging to the priors of Christ church, Canterbury, who had eighteen stalls here. It contains the effigy of a knight in armour (*temp.* Edward I.), and in the Lee chapel is one of Richard de la Legh (*temp.* Edward I.), and a monument to Sir W. Southland of Lee, 1638. On the other bank of the Stour is Wickham Breaux, so called from the old family of Breaux, or Braose. In the church is stained glass representing the beheading of John the Baptist, and a brass for H. Welde, 1420. L. of Littlebourne (1m.) is the ruined chapel of Well, and Howletts (G. Gipps), near which the tourist may join L.C.D.R. at Bekesbourne station.

From Littlebourne a steep hill (with a good view looking back) and a rather uninteresting road bring the tourist to the top of the high ground at St. Martin's, where the beautiful view over Canterbury will repay for the tediousness of the last 3m.

11½ Canterbury (p. 70).

Road Excursions.

XXIII. ASHFORD TO BETHERSDEN, TENTERDEN, AND
NEWENDEN.

This is quite a cross-country route, through an unfrequented part of the Weald. Crossing S.E.R. some little distance out of Ashford, the tourist reaches (1½m.) Great Chart, or Chart Magna, which in early times is said to have been a large and important town. At present it is only a very neat and pretty village, containing almshouses built by the Tokes of Godington, and a fine Perpendicular church, consisting of nave, aisles, and chancel. There are some very good brasses to the Tokes, especially to Capt. Nicholas Toke, 1680, who, after marrying five wives, walked up to London at the age of ninety-three to obtain a sixth, though death stepped in and nipped his young affections in the bud; also to Wm. Sharpe, 1499, and his five wives; and to the Goldwells, a family of this parish, of whom were Jas. Goldwell, Bishop of Norwich, 1499, and Thomas, bishop of St. Asaph, 1555. There is a fine yew tree in the churchyard.

6 BETHERSDEN, famous for its quarries of freshwater fossiliferous limestone, which takes a high polish, and has been extensively used in many Kentish churches, notably at Hythe and Stockbury, as also in the cathedrals of Rochester and Canterbury. The fossil shells belong to the genus *Paludinæ* and *Cypridæ*, and fill the stone in myriads. The church is Perpendicular and cruciform, and has brasses to William and Thomas Lovelace, 1459 and 1591, who lived at the old manor of Lovelace, close to the village. Of this family was Lovelace the poet (*temp.* Charles I.).

9m. High Halden, principally celebrated in mediæval times for its bad roads, which were the terror of Wealden travellers and a fruitful subject for topographers. The church has a wooden tower and belfry spire.

12½ TENTERDEN. (*Pop.* 3669. *Inn: White Lion. Omnibus to Ashford, Headcorn, and Rye.*) A clean, handsome, little market town, with an open green and a fine church, consisting of nave, aisles, chancel, and chancel aisles, of which the N. is the vestry, the S. the burial place of the Whitfield family. The glory of the church, however, is

the Perpendicular tower, which is conspicuous far and wide, and has the additional honour of being responsible for the Goodwin sands. Country folk-lore declared that these sands (p. 182) were fertile and rich lands, belonging to Godwin, Earl of Kent, but that on the building of Tenterden steeple they were inundated and for ever lost. The explanation of the legend, however, was this: that the Bishop of Rochester was the treasurer of an annual sum of money collected for the defence of these lands by dykes and sea-walls, and that on one occasion he applied the fund to the building of Tenterden church, whereupon, the defences being neglected, the sea rushed in. But unfortunately for legend and explanation, the probable geological date of the Goodwin sands is far anterior to the story. There is no doubt, however, that very great changes of land have taken place within historical times in this district, for old documents mention that the sea came up as far as Smallhythe, a village about 2½m. S., on a branch of the Rother, and a chapel was built here by Archbishop Warham, on account of the difficulty experienced by the inhabitants in getting to Tenterden when inundations happened. Shipwrecked corpses, too, were buried in this churchyard. There is another very conspicuous (new) church, by *Gordon Hills*, at Boars Isle near the East Cross, with a graceful spire. Close to the town are Summer hill (C. F. Crockett), and Heronden (Mrs. Whelan), which has a picturesque Elizabethan gatehouse. Tenterden was made a corporate town by Elizabeth, previous to which it had enjoyed several privileges given by Henry VI. It is still attached to the Cinque Port of Rye, but at the present day it is sadly out of the world, its nearest railway station being Appledore, 6½m. E. Continuing the road to S.W., and crossing the Rother, the tourist arrives at

15½m. Rolvenden. The views on this last bit of road are charming, the high ground commanding the Rother and its windings. Rolvenden has a Perpendicular church with a Decorated font, but otherwise there is not much of interest to detain the visitor. Near it is the Hole (John Bell). 2½m. W. of Rolvenden is the village of Bennenden, the church of which is Perpendicular, and was restored in 1862. A little farther on, towards Cranbrook, is Hemstead park (Right Hon. Gathorne Hardy). The house has been rebuilt by *Brandon*, and occupies

very high ground. The borders of the counties of Kent and Sussex are reached at NEWENDEN, 3m. S. of Rolvenden, the church of which (restored by *Gordon Hills*) has a Norman font on four pillars and a Decorated screen. Not far from the village was Losenham Priory for Carmelites, 1241, of which there are now no traces. Camden also thought that Newenden was the site of the Roman station of Anderida, but more modern research has placed this at Pevensey. At Newenden the road enters Sussex, and runs exclusively through that county to Rye (p. 100).

Road Excursions.

XXIV. STAPLEHURST TO CRANBROOK, HAWKHURST, NEWENDEN, AND RYE.

STAPLEHURST STATION (*S.E.R.*) is $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. from London. *Omnibus to Cranbrook.* The village is nearly 1m. from the station, and is on rising ground, commanding good views; but beyond the old-fashioned timbered mansion of Staplehurst Place (*H. Hoare*), it does not contain much of interest.

2m. (from the station) 1. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ m.) is Frittenden church, with a lofty spire (restored by *Hussey*), Frittenden house (*Sir C. Oakeley, Bart.*). 4m. Camden Hill (*J. S. Hardy*), and 1. Sissinghurst (*Admiral Houston*). 5m. road on rt. to Goudhurst, Lamberhurst, and Tunbridge Wells; beautiful views of Goudhurst Hill and church. On l. to Bidenden and Ashford.

6 CRANBROOK (*Pop.* 4020. *Inns: George, Bull*) is a very pleasant and clean little town, which was once the centre of the clothing trade, but has long lost its ancient importance. Before the days of machinery and north of England factories, Cranbrook was the centre of the broadcloth trade, which was brought hither by the Flemings whom Edward III. transplanted into England in the fourteenth century. Cranbrook was then as busy as well as an opulent place; and it is said that Queen Elizabeth, when on a visit here, walked from the town to Cowshorn, then an old manor of the Hendleys, 1m. distant, all the way on a carpet of broadcloth. The streets still show in the houses the remains of the old-fashioned factories. The church (restored 1867) is a fine Perpendicular building, with several

stained glass memorial windows. It contains some armour and dress of one of the Roberts of Glassenbury, but said to have belonged to Sir John Baker of Sissinghurst, to whom also a little room over the S. porch is dedicated, under the title of "Bloody Baker's Prison." Cranbrook was always famous for its dissenting opinions, and in early days was a stronghold of the Anabaptists. When these views first were ventilated, Sir John Baker was a vigorous opponent of them, and was in consequence much disliked. He is said to have been killed in a quarrel at a spot called Baker's Cross, just outside the town; but this is incorrect, for he died in London, 1558. The grammar school was founded 1574, by Simon Lynch, and at the present time has attained an excellent reputation. There is a pretty market hall, which does duty also as vestry. In the neighbourhood are Swifts (Colonel Alexander), Glassenbury (T. W. Roberts), an old moated house, restored by *Salvin*, and Angley (Sackett Tomline) once the manor house of the Ongleys, an old Cranbrook clothier family. The town keeps up, not being yet corrupted by railways, an ancient local custom of spreading the path of a newly-married couple returning from church, with various matters pertaining to the bridegroom's trade or business.

1½m. from Cranbrook, at Hartley, the road joins that between Tunbridge Wells and Hastings. 2m. rt., on very high ground, is Bedgbury Park (A. J. B. Beresford-Hope, M.P.), one of the finest seats in this part of Kent. It was formerly the residence of the old families of Bedgbury and Colepepper, during whose tenure Queen Elizabeth paid it a visit. The present mansion was built 1688, by Sir James Hayes; but it has of late years been much altered—first, by Field Marshal Lord Beresford, who bought it, 1836, and added wings; secondly, by the present owner, who has restored it (by *Carpenter*) in the French château style. The interior, especially the chapel, is in the highest mode of art decoration. The grounds with the lakes and terraces are elaborate and beautiful, and still pleasanter is Bedgbury Great Wood, a forest land of 2000 acres, which stretches S. of the park, and from and in which there are many beautiful views. W. of Bedgbury, and between it and Lamberhurst (p. 90), is Mr. Beresford-Hope's church at Kilndown, gorgeously decorated, and containing a splendid reredos, some fine

examples of Munich stained glass windows, and in the churchyard the tomb of F. M. Lord Beresford, a model of which was sent to the Exhibition of 1862: the lychgate is also worth special notice. Should the tourist wish, he can go to Tunbridge Wells from here by Lamberhurst, passing (1.) Scotney Castle (S. Hussey), restored by *Salvin*, and Twysden or Twyssenden, an old Tudor farmhouse, formerly the manor house of the Twysdens and Fowles. A little S. of Kilndown is Combwell, where stood an Augustinian Priory, which has long since disappeared, leaving no traces.

4m. at Highgate, where the Tunbridge Wells and Rye road is crossed, is a beautiful new church (by *Scott*), built and endowed by the incumbent.

5 HAWKHURST (*Pop.* 2594. *Omnibus to Cranbrook and Etchingham station S.E.R.*) is a very pleasant little town close to the Sussex border, in the centre of a prettily wooded district. The church (restored by *Slater*) is partly Perpendicular and partly Decorated, and has a remarkably good E. window, with a peculiar flamboyant tracery. The porches N. and S. have each a parvise chamber over them. The old church of Hawkhurst was built (*temp.* Edward III.) by the Abbot of Battle, who held property here. As at Lamberhurst, Hawkhurst was famous in the early days of the iron trade for its furnaces, which were started and worked by William Penn, the Quaker. In the neighbourhood are Collingwood (Sir J. W. Herschel, Bart.), Lillesden (E. W. Loyd), an old house of the clothier family of Chittenden, Riden (G. French), Copt Hall (E. B. Sutton), Tongswood (W. Cotterill), &c.

Turning S.E., still keeping to the Sussex border, is 3m. (from Hawkhurst) Sandhurst, with a Decorated church, containing some stained glass and the effigy of a knight in armour, supposed to be John of Betherinden (*temp.* Edward II.). In 3m. more, the tourist will reach Newenden (p. 140), whence he can proceed to Rye, or retrace his steps through the weald to Tenterden.

Road Excursions.**XXV. ASHFORD TO FAVERSHAM, BY EASTWELL AND
SHELDWICH.**

This is the prettiest of the two roads from Ashford to Faversham, the other and longer one being through Charing, Otterden, and Eastling. Quitting the town by the Canterbury road, that to Eastwell diverges 1m. 1. 1½m. Kennington village and church, of no interest. 3m. 1. is the entrance to EASTWELL Park, which, until very recently, has been the residence of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh. The park is one of the prettiest in Kent, not only from the beauty of its timber, but for the lovely views, particularly from one of the hills on the N.W., which takes in the sea on both sides, N. over Sheerness and Faversham, and S. over Romney marsh. The hillside, too, is planted in a series of avenues, called the Star Walks. The house was built by Sir Thos. Moyle in Henry VIII.'s reign, but soon passed from him to the Finch family, in whose possession (the Earls of Winchelsea) it still remains. It was a good deal altered and improved when H.R.H. commenced his tenancy, about two years ago. There are two curious traditions extant about Eastwell—one being that an Earl of Winchelsea cut down a grove of oaks with his own hand, and that almost immediately afterwards his countess died suddenly, and his eldest son, Lord Maidstone, was killed in an engagement at sea. The other is that a (natural) son of Richard III. fled hither after the battle of Bosworth, and worked on the estate as a bricklayer. He is said to have been buried in the church or churchyard, and there is an entry in the register to that effect. Eastwell church is on the S. border of the park, and contains a little stained glass, and the tombs of Sir Thos. Moyle, 1560, of Sir Moyle Finch, and the Countess of Winchelsea, his wife, 1614, and of Sir Heneage Finch, Recorder of London, 1631. 1m. 1. beyond Eastwell is Westwell, where is an unusually fine church (Early English), consisting of nave with aisles, chancel with aisles, and a graceful steeple spire. This church is remarkable for its Jesse window at the E. end, which has been partially restored by *Willement*. There are brasses to John Sharp, 1617, and to

two priests, also a stone confessional and stalls for the monks, Westwell having been specially assigned to the Priory of Christ Church, Canterbury, for the use of the refectory, an excellent arrangement, by which, doubtless, many a fat buck found its way from the adjoining park to the monkish larder at Canterbury. A farmhouse in the parish, called Ripley Court, is noticeable as having been the residence of Squire Alexander Iden, who with his own hand captured Jack Cade in the adjoining demesne of Hothfield.

Skirting the E. border of the park is, a little to the rt., the village and church of Boughton Aluph (Decorated). 4m. (1. $\frac{1}{2}$ m.) on the N. side of the park is Challock church, in a very lovely situation, on the slope of the hill. It has a nave with aisles, chancel, and good tower. Thence through Challock wood—a charming bit of scenery, to Challock Lees, $5\frac{1}{2}$ m., where the road from Charing to Canterbury crosses. Rt. 1m. is Moldash or Molash church (Early English), which has monuments to the Chapman family. $7\frac{1}{2}$ m. Badlesmere Lees, the church of Badlesmere being some little distance farther to rt., which contains the monument of Barbara Writhe, wife of the Garter King-at-Arms, 1483. Here was the seat of the great family of Badlesmere, an important and powerful family in Kent, one of whom was castellan of Leeds in Edward II.'s reign, and held the castle against the Queen, who tried to gain possession of it. For this act of contumacy he was afterwards hung at Canterbury, 1322. His daughter brought the estate to the De Veres, Earls of Oxford, and it now belongs to Lord Sondes. In Elizabeth's reign it was held by Sir Humphrey Gilbert, the navigator. On l. Leveland church (Early English), and ($1\frac{1}{2}$ m. farther W.) Throwley, the church of which occupies the site of a priory, founded 1153 by Wm. D'Ypres, the same who built the tower at Rye. It is of mixed dates, partly Norman, partly Perpendicular, and contains monuments to the Earl of Faversham, 1677, and the Sondes family, and some stalls, probably the remains of the old Priory church. A little to the N. of the village is Belmont, the beautiful seat of Lord Harris. $8\frac{1}{2}$ m. Sheldwich Lees, near which (rt.) is Lees Court (Lord Sondes), once the residence of Sir George Sondes (Earl of Faversham), who underwent great trouble in the cause of Charles II., to compensate for which the king made

him a peer. He it is who is buried at Throwley, where are several monuments of the family. The mansion was built by Inigo Jones.

9½ SHELDWICH church contains brasses to Sir Richard Atte Lese and wife, 1394 (very fine), to John Cely and wife, 1426, and Joan Murray, 1431.

11½m. the suburb of Preston, and, crossing the L.C.D.R.,
12m. Faversham (p. 37).

I N D E X.

ABBEY WOOD, 67.
 Abbot's Cliff, 20.
 Acrise, 20.
 Addington, 97.
 Adisham, 40.
 Aldington, 17.
 Alkham, 40.
 Allington, 59.
 Appledore, 100.
 Ash, 135.
 Ashford, 16.
 Ashurst, 111.
 Aylesford, 58.

BADLESMERE, 144.
 Bapchild, 37.
 Barfreston, 40.
 Barham Court, 95.
 Barham Downs, 41.
 Barming, 98.
 Battle Hall, 115.
 Bayham Abbey, 90.
 Beachborough, 20.
 Beckenham, 24.
 Bedgbury Park, 141.
 Bekesbourne, 39.
 Belvedere, 67.
 Bennenden, 139.
 Berstead, 114.
 Bethersden, 138.
 Betshanger, 130.
 Bexley, 52.
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 Bidborough, 93.
 Biddenden, 119.
 Bilsington, 99.
 Birchington, 43.

Birling, 98.
 Bishopsbourne, 41.
 Blackheath, 63.
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 Blean, 39.
 Boars Isle, 139.
 Bonnington, 99.
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 Bossenden Wood, 39.
 Boughton Aluph, 144.
 — Malherbe, 117.
 — Monchelsea, 15.
 — -under-Blean, 39.
 Boundes Park, 120.
 Boxley, 62.
 Brabourne, 129.
 Bradbourne, 98.
 Brasted, 110.
 Bredgar, 36.
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By EDWARD HULL, M.A., F.R.S.,

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